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SLANG AND ITS  
ANALOGUES

PAST AND PRESENT.

A DICTIONARY, HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE, OF THE  
HETERODOX SPEECH OF ALL CLASSES OF SOCIETY  
FOR MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED YEARS.

*WITH SYNONYMS IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN,  
ITALIAN, ETC.*

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

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## A . Dictionary . of ✻ Slang . and . its . Analogues . ✻



**FLABBERGAST**,  
*verb.* (colloquial).

To astound; to stagger, either physically or mentally. [O. E.,

FLAB=to frighten

+ GAST=to scare.] Fr., *abalober*; *baba* (from *ébahi* = astounded); *épater* (= flatten out). Sp., *quedarse de*, or *hecho, una pieza* (= 'knocked all of a heap').  
See FLOORED.

1772. *Annual Register*, 'On New Words.' Now we are FLABBERGASTED and bored from morning to night.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., p. 79. His colleagues were FLABBERGASTED when they heard of Castlereagh's sudden death.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends* ('Brothers of Birchington'). He was quite FLABBERGASTED to see the amount.

1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 261. We rather just imagine they will be not a little puzzled and FLABBERGASTED to discover the meaning or wit of some of those elegant phrases.

1864. *Derby Day*, p. 67. You're sort of FLABBERGASTED. It's taken all the

wind out of you like, and you feel like an old screw a blowing up Highgate Hill.

1889. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 18 Jan. Poor Clarke was completely FLABBERGASTED.

1891. *National Observer*, 1 Aug. In no other sport is the *laudator temporis acti* so completely FLABBERGASTED as here.

**FLABBERDEGAZ**, *subs.* (theatrical).

Words interpolated to dissemble a lapse of memory; GAG (*q.v.*). Also, imperfect utterance or bad acting.

**FLAG**, *subs.* (old).—1. A groat, or fourpenny piece. Also FLAGG, and FLAGGE. For synonyms, see JOEY.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. *Roge*. But a FLAGGE, a wyn, and a make. (But a groat, a penny, and a half-penny.)

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept. 1874) s.v.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 12, s.v.

1725. JONATHAN WILD, *Canting Dict.*, s.v.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 269. A

tremendous black doll bought for a FLAG (fourpence) of a retired rag-merchant.

2. (common). — An apron; hence a badge of office or trade; cf., FLAG-FLASHER. Equivalents are BELLY-CHEAT and FIG-LEAF.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 232 (List of patterer's words), s.v.

1872. *Dundee Advertiser*, 20 April; 'Report of Meeting of Domestic Servants. It was contended that they were compelled to wear what was generally known as a FLAG.

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Villon's Straight Tip*. Suppose you try a different tack. And on the square you flash your FLAG.

3. (obsolete). — A jade.

1539. DAVID LYNDSEY, *Thrie Estaitis*. Works (Ed. Laing, 1879), ii. 109. Ane fistand FLAG.

4. (common). — The menstrual cloth. Variants are bandage; clout; danger-signal; diaper; double clout (Durfey); gentleman's pleasure garden padlock; periodicity rag; the red rag; sanitary towel; window-curtain.

THE FLAG (or DANGER-SIGNAL) IS UP = "The Captain's at home" (GROSE), *i.e.*, the menstrual flux is on.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — To have domestic afflictions, or the D.A.'s; to have the FLOWERS (*q.v.*); to have one's grandmother, or little friend, or auntie, with one; to have them (or it) on; to be in a state of 'no thoroughfare'; to have the red rag on; to be road-making; to have the street up for repairs; to be at Number One, London; to have 'the gate locked and the key lost.'

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Avoir ses cardinales* (literally, to have one's reds); *avoir les histoires*;

*avoir les affaires* (common); *avoir ses anglais* (in allusion to the scarlet of English soldiers); *broyer des tomates* (= tomato-crushing); *avoir son marquis* (COTGRAVE); *avoir les fleurs rouges*; *avoir sa chemise tachée* (COTGRAVE); *voir Sophie*; *avoir les ordinaires*.

ITALIAN SYNONYMS. — *Marchese* (FLORIO), *marchesano* (= menses. Michel says, Art. *marque* = a month, a woman. "Il nésaurait être douteux que ce nom ne soit venu à cette division de l'année, de l'infirmité périodique qu'ont les *marques*, ou femmes, lors que la Lune, pour tenir sa diette et vaquer à ses purifications menstruelles, fait *marquer* les logis féminins par son fourrier, lequel pour escusson n'a que son impression rouge").

TO FLY THE FLAG, *verb. phr.* (tailors'). — To post a notice that 'hands' are wanted. See also FLY THE FLAG, *post*.

FLAG OF DEFIANCE, *subs. phr.* (old nautical). — A drunken roysterer. For synonyms, see ELBOW-CROOKER.

TO HANG OUT THE FLAG OF DEFIANCE (OR BLOODY FLAG), *verb. phr.* — To be continuously drunk. [An allusion to the 'crimson face' (COTGRAVE) and the pugnacity of certain terms of inebriety.] For synonyms, see RINKS.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. THE FLAG OF DEFIANCE IS OUT (among the Tarts) the Fellow's Face is very Red, and he is Drunk.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

FLAG-FLASHER, *subs.* (common). — One sporting a badge or other ensign of office (cap, apron, uni-



form, etc.) when off duty.—*Cf.*,  
FLAG, sense 2.

**FLAG-ABOUT**, *subs.* (old).—A strumpet. [From FLAG, a paving-stone]. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

**FLAG-FLYING**.—*See* FLAG.

**FLAG OF DISTRESS**, *subs. phr.* (common).—1. A card announcing 'lodgings,' or 'board and lodgings.' Hence, any overt sign of poverty.

2. (common).—A flying shirt-tail; in America, a LETTER IN THE POST-OFFICE (*q.v.*).

**FLAGGER**, *subs.* (common).—A street-walker. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1865. *Daily Paper*, 'Police Report.' She wasn't a low sort at all—she wasn't a FLAGGER, as we call it. So I replies, 'I am well, thankee; and am happy to say I feel as such.'

**FLAGS**, *subs.* (common).—Linen drying and flying in the wind. For synonyms, *see* SNOW.

**FLAG UNFURLED**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—A man of the world.

**FLAG-WAGGING**, *subs.* (military).—Flag-signal drill.

**FLAM**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Non-sense (for synonyms, *see* GAMMON); humbug; flattery; or, a lie: as A REGULAR FLAM (for synonyms, *see* WHOPPER). *Cf.* FLIM-FLAM.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, [*Cf.*, FLIM-FLAM.]

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Humorous Lieutenant*, iv., 1. With some new FLAM or other, nothing to the matter.

1664. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. II., ch. iii., p. 29. A FLAM more senseless than the roguery of old aruspicey and aug'ry.

1742-4. ROGER NORTH, *Lives of the Norths*, ch. i., p. 368. They must have known his Lordship better and not have ventured such FLAMS at him.

1760. FOOTE, *Minor*, Act II. Had the FLAM been fact, your behaviour was natural enough.

1762. FOOTE, *Liar*, bk. II., ch. ii. Can't you discern that this FLAM of Sir James Elliot's is a mere fetch to favour his retreat?

1830. SIR E. B. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 298 (ed. 1854). Harry . . . told you as ow it was all a FLAM about the child in the bundle!

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends* (ed. 1862), p. 325. No trick nor FLAM, but your real Schiedam.

1849. C. KINGSLEY, *Alton Locke*, ch. ii. And their pockets full they crams by their patriotic FLAMS, And then swear 'tis for the good of the nation.

1850. D. JERROLD, *The Catpaw*, Act II. Though the story of that scoundrel Coolcard, Augustus Coolcard—and I was never before deceived—never—is a FLAM—all a FLAM.

1870. *London Figaro*, 22 Sept. Is not your boasted power a FLAM?

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Villon's Good Night*. You flymy titters fond of FLAM.

2. (old).—A single stroke on the drum.—[GROSE, 1785.]

*Adj.* (old).—False.

1692. SPRAT, *Relation of Young's Contrivance* (Harl. Misc. vi. 224). To amuse him the more in his search, she addeth a FLAM story that she had got his hand by corrupting one of the letter-carriers in London.

*Verb* (colloquial).—1. To take in; to flatter; to lie; to foist or fob off. FLAMMING=lying.

1658. ROWLEY AND FORD, &c., *Witch of Edm.*, ii., 2. Was this your cunning? and then FLAM me off with an old witch, two wives, and Winnifride.

1688. SHADWELL, *Sq. of Alsatia*, II. in wks. (1720) iv. 41. Does he think to FLAM me with a lye?

1830. S. WARREN, *Diary of a Late Physician*, ch. v. But I'll show him whether or not I, for one of them, am to be jeered and FLAMMED with impunity.

1835. MARRYAT, *Jacob Faithful*, ch. xxviii. How she did FLAM that poor old Domine.

(American University). — To affect, or prefer, female society; to GROUSE (*q.v.*). [A corruption of FLAME (*q.v.*)]. See MOLROWING.

**FLAMBUSTIOUS**, *adj.* (American). — Showy; gaudy; pleasant.

1868. *Putnam's Magazine*. We will have a FLAMBUSTIOUS time. [Cf. SHAKSPEARE (1608), *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii., ii. Let's have one other GAUDY night.]

**FLAMDODDLE**, *subs.* (American). — Nonsense; vain boasting. Probably a variant of FLAPDOODLE (*q.v.*).

1888. *New York Sun*. We wasn't goin' to have any high falutin' FLAMDODDLE business over him.

**FLAME**, *subs.* (colloquial). — 1. A sweetheart; a mistress in keeping. OLD FLAME = an old lover; a cast-off mistress. Also (2) a venereal disease.

5. 1664. *d.* 1721. MATHEW PRIOR [in Palgrave's "Golden Treasury of Songs and Lyrics," ed. 1885]. Euphelia serves to grace my measure, but Chloe is my real FLAME.

1757. FOOTE, *Author*, Act I. Let's see, Mr. and Mrs. Cadwallader, and your FLAME, the sister, as I live.

1846-8. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch. xiv. On this Rebecca instantly stated that Amelia was engaged to be married to a Lieutenant Osborne, a very old FLAME.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, or *Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FLAMER**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A man, woman, thing, or incident above the common. [Literally conspicuous to flaming point, *i.e.*, as a light in the dark]. For synonyms, see STUNNER.

1840. H. COCKTON, *Valentine Vox*, ch. ii. Concocting a criticism on the evening's performance, which certainly was, according to the signor's own acknowledgment, a regular FLAMER.

**FLAMES**, *subs.* (old). — A red-haired person. Cf., CARROTS and GINGER.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., p. 79. Who should I fling my precious ogles upon but FLAMES — she as lived at the 'Blue Posts.'

**FLAMING**, *ppl. adj.* (colloquial). — Conspicuous; ardent; STUNNING (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see A 1 and FIZZING.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Conv.*, Dialogue II. *Lord Sparkish*. My Lady Smart, your ladyship has a very fine scarf. *Lady Smart*. Yes, my lord, it will make a FLAMING figure in a country church.

1776. RUBRICK, *The Spleen*, ii. I'll send a FLAMING paragraph of their wedding to all the newspapers.

1872. BESANT and RICE, *Ready Money Mortiboy*, ch. xxx. He called one of the children, and sent her for a bill. She presently returned with a FLAMING poster.

**FLANDERKIN**, *subs.* (old). — See quot.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. A very large fat man or horse; also natives of that country.

**FLANDERS FORTUNES**, *subs. phr.* (old). — Of small substance. — B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew* (1690).

**FLANDERS PIECES**, *subs. phr.* (old). — See quot.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLANDERS PIECES, pictures that look fair at a distance, but coarser near at hand.



**FLANK**, *verb* (common).—1. To crack a whip; also, to hit a mark with the lash of one.

1830. SIR E. B. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford* (ed. 1854), p. 18. He then, taking up a driving whip, **FLANKED** a fly from the opposite wall.

1833. 'An Anglo-sapphic Ode' (WHIBLEY, *Cap and Gown*, p. 135). Kicks up a row, gets drunk, or **FLANKS** a tandem whip out of window.

2. (colloquial).—To deliver—a blow or a retort; to push; to hustle; to quoit (Shakspeare). Fr., *flanquer*: as in *flanquer à la porte*, and *Je lui ai flanqué un fameux coup de pied au cul!*

A PLATE OF THIN FLANK, *subs. phr.* (common).—A 'sixpenny cut' off the joint. See N. Twill in *Fancy Too Late for Dinner*.

TO FLANK THE WHOLE BOTTLE, *verb. phr.* (American soldiers).—To dodge, *i.e.*, to OUTFLANK, to achieve by strategy. For synonyms, see STICK.

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. 286. When the men wished to escape the attention of pickets and guards by slipping past them, they said they **FLANKED** them; drill, and detail, and every irksome duty was **FLANKED**, when it could be avoided by some cunning trick. Soon, however, honesty itself was thus treated, and the poor farmer was **FLANKED** out of his pig and his poultry, and not infrequently even the comrade out of his pipe and tobacco, if not his rations. The height of strategy was employed in these various *flank manœuvres*, when the Commissary could be made to surrender some of his whiskey, and thus it came about, in the South at least, that to **FLANK THE WHOLE BOTTLE** was a phrase expressive of superlative cunning and brilliant success.

**FLANKER**, *subs.* (common).—A blow; a retort; a kick. Cf., FLANK, sense 1.

**FLANKEY**, *subs.* (common).—The posteriors. For synonyms, see

BLIND CHEEKS and MONOCULAR EYEGLASS.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, s.v.

**FLANNEL**. See HOT FLANNEL.

**FLANNELS**. TO GET ONE'S FLANNELS, *verb. phr.* (schools).—To get a place in the school football or cricket teams, or in the boats. Cf., 'to get one's colours,' or 'one's blue.'

**FLAP**, *subs.* (thieves').—1. Sheet-lead used for roofing. Fr., *doussin*; *noir*. Cf., BLUEY.

2. (old).—A blow.

1539. DAVID LYNDSEY, *Thrie Estaitis*. Works [Laing, 1879], ii. 73. And to begin the play, tak thair ane **FLAP**.

*Verb* (thieves').—1. To rob; to swindle. For synonyms, see PRIG and STICK.

2. (common).—To pay; 'to fork out.' Cf., FLAP THE DIMMOCK.

3. (venery).—To possess a woman. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

TO FLAP A JAY, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To swindle a green-horn; to SELL A PUP (*q.v.*).

1885. *Daily Telegraph*, Aug. 18th, p. 3, col. 1. He and three others of the 'division' had 'cut up' £70 between them, obtained by **FLAPPING A JAY**, which, rendered into intelligible English, means plundering a simple-minded person.

TO FLAP THE DIMMOCK, *verb. phr.* (common).—To pay. [From FLAP, a verb of motion + DIMMOCK = money]. Cf., FLAP.

**FLAPDOODLE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. Transparent nonsense; "kid."

Also FLAMDOODLE and FLAMSAUCE, or FLAP-SAUCE. For synonyms, *see* GAMMON.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xxviii. 'It's my opinion, Peter, that the gentleman has eaten no small quantity of FLAPDOODLE in his lifetime.' 'What's that, O'Brien,' replied I. 'Why, Peter, it's the stuff they feed fools on.'

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*. I shall talk to our regimental doctors about it, and get put through a course of fools' diet—FLAPDOODLE they call it, what fools are fed on.

1884. S. L. CLEMENS ('Mark Twain'), *Huck Finn*, xxv., 247. A speech, all full of tears and FLAPDOODLE about its being a sore trial for him and his poor brother to lose the diseased [deceased].

2. (venery). — The *penis*. (Urquhart). For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

TO TALK FLAPDOODLE. *verb. phr.* (American).—To brag; to talk nonsense.

1888. *Daily Inter-Ocean*, Mar. 2. Possibly rich men will turn from sharp dealing, from debauchery, from FLAPDOODLE fashion to a common-sense recognition of a situation, which clearly shows that wealth is no longer what it used to be—autocratic, absolute, the ruler of all else.

FLAPDOODLER, *subs.* (American). —A braggart agitator; one that MAKES THE EAGLE SQUEAL (*q.v.*).

FLAP-DRAGON, *subs.* (old). — The pox or CLAP (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* LADIES' FEVER.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. FLAPDRAGON, a clap or pox.

*Verb.* (old).—To gulp down hastily, as in the game of flapdragon.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, Act-III., Sc. 3. But, to make an end of the ship: to see how the sea FLAPDRAGONED it!

FLAPMAN, *subs.* (prison). — A convict promoted for good behaviour to first or second class.

FLAPPER, *subs.* (common). — 1. The hand; also FLAPPER-SHAKER. For synonyms, *see* DADDLE and MAULEY.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. vii. My Dear Mr. Simple, extend your FLAPPER to me for I'm delighted to see you.

1850. MATSELL, *Vocabulum or Rogues' Lexicon*, s.v.

1866. *London Miscellany*, May 19, p. 235. 'There's my FLAPPER on the strength of it.' Guy shook hands with the eccentric stranger heartily.

2. (common). — A little girl. [Also a fledgeling wild duck.]

3. (venery).—A very young prostitute; *cf.*, sense 2.

4. (common). — A dustman's or coal-heaver's hat; a FANTAIL (*q.v.*).

5. (in. pl.). — Very long-pointed shoes worn by 'nigger' minstrels.

6. (venery).—The *penis*. (For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK).

7. (colloquial). — A parasite; a remembrancer. (*Cf.* SWIFT, *Gulliver*, 'Laputa'.)

FLAPPER-SHAKING, *subs.* (common).—Hand-shaking.

1853. BRADLEY ('Cuthbert Bede'), *Verdant Green*, pt. II., ch. iv. Wondering whether . . . if the joining palms in a circus was the customary FLAPPER-SHAKING before 'toeing the scratch' for business.

FLAP-SAUCE. *See* FLAPDOODLE.

**FLARE**, *subs.* (nautical).—1. Primarily a stylish craft; hence, by implication, anything out of the common. For synonyms, see STUNNER.

2. (colloquial).—A row; a dispute; a 'drunk'; or spree. *Cf.*, FLARE-UP.

*Verb.* (thieves').—1. Specifically to whisk out; hence, to steal actively, lightly, or delicately.

1850. *Lloyd's Weekly*, 3 Feb. Low Lodging Houses of London. B. tried his pocket saying, 'I'll show you how to do a handkerchief'; but the baker looked round and B. stopped; and just after that I FLARED it (whisked the handkerchief out); and that's the first I did.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., 457. Just after that I FLARED it (a handkerchief).

2. (common).—To swagger; to go with a bounce.

1841. LEMAN REDE, *Sixteen-String Jack*, ii., 3. Crissy Odsbuds, I'll on with my duds, And over the water we'll FLARE.)

ALL OF A FLARE, *adv. phr.* (thieves').—Bunglingly.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime*, p. 113. Some of the girls at Milberry's pick pockets at night: while one talks to the man, the other robs him; but they are not dextrous, they pull it out ALL OF A FLARE.

**FLARING**, *adj.* and *adv.* (colloquial).—Excessive: *e.g.*, a FLARING lie; FLARING drunk; a FLARING whore; see FLAMING.

**FLARE-UP** (or -OUT), *subs.* (popular). An orgie; a fight; an outburst of temper. Also a spree.

1838. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 2 Ser. ch. x. Some of our young citizens . . . got into a FLARE-UP with a party of boatmen that lives in the Mississippi; a desperate row it was too.

1847. *Punch*, vol. XIII., p. 148. Address at the Opening of a Casino. In for FLARE-UP and frolic let us go, And polk it on the fast fantastic toe.

1851. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., p. 160. These (hot eel) dealers generally trade on their own capital; but when some have been having a FLARE-UP, and have 'broke down for stock' to use the words of my informant, they borrow £1 and pay it back in a week or a fortnight.

1879. JUSTIN M'CARTHY, *Donna Quixote*, ch. xvii. Paulina had a hard struggle many a time to keep down her temper, and not to have what she would have called a FLARE-OUT.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Barney; batter; bean-feast; beano; break-down; burst; booze (specifically a drinking-bout); caper; devil's delight; dust; fanteague; fight; flare; flats-yad (back slang); fly; gig; hay-bag; hell's delight; high jinks; hooping up; hop; jagg; jamboree; jump; junketting; lark; drive; randan; on the tiles; on the fly; painting the town (American); rampage; razzle-dazzle; reeraw; ructions; shake; shine; spree; sky-wan-nocking; tear; tear up; toot.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*La nocerie* (popular: *une nocé à tout casser*; or, *une nocé de bâtons de chaise* = a grand jollification); *faire des crêpes* (= to have a rare spree); *badouiller* (popular: especially applied to drinking bouts).

ITALIAN SYNONYM.—*Far festa alle campane*.

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Trapi-sonda* (a drunken revel); *holgueta*.

*Verb* (common).—To fly into a passion.

1849. MAHONEY, *Rel. Father Prout*, I., 319. 'Vert-Vert, the Parrot.' Forth like a Congreave rocket burst, And storm'd and swore, FLARED UP, and curs'd.



1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xii. He was in the 'Cave of Harmony,' he says, that night you FLARED UP about Captain Costigan.

1871. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 June, 'Paris in Convalescence.' On this he FLARED UP like a Commune conflagration, and cried out, 'Shame, in the name of religion, art, and history!'

**FLASH**, *subs.* (old).—1. The vulgar tongue; the lingo of thieves and their associates. To PATTER FLASH = to talk in thieves' lingo. [The derivation of FLASH, like that of French *argot*, is entirely speculative. It has, however, been generally referred to a district called FLASH (the primary signification as a place name is not clear), between Buxton Leek and Macclesfield: there lived many chapmen who, says Dr. Aiken ("Description of Country round Manchester"), 'were known as FLASH-MEN . . . using a sort of slang or cant dialect.']

1718. HITCHIN. *The Regulator of Thieves, etc., with Account of FLASH words, etc.* (Title).

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, II., 69. Jigger, being cant or FLASH for door.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 25. With respect to that peculiar language called FLASH, or St. Jiles' Greek, etc.

1830. SIR E. B. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. viii. Here a tall gentleman marched up to him, and addressed him in a certain language, which might be called the freemasonry of FLASH.

1839. HARRISON AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* (1839), p. 12. 'What does he say?' roared the long drover. 'He says he don't understand FLASH,' replied the lady in gentleman's attire,

1843-4. HOOD, *Miss Kilmansegg*. His cheeks no longer drew the cash. Because, as his comrades explain'd in FLASH, He had overdrawn his badger.

1827. MAGINN, *Vidocq's Song*. Pattered in FLASH like a covey knowing,

1864. *Athenæum*, 29 Oct. The northern village of ill-repute, and bearing that name (FLASH) gave to felonious high-flying the term FLASH.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 278. Why, when the late Lord Lytton wrote *Pelham* it was brought against him that 'his knowledge of FLASH was evidently purely superficial.' FLASH, my sister, is merely recondite slang or thieves' argot.

ENGLISH ANALOGUES.—Back Slang or Kacab-Genals (the main principle consists in roughly pronouncing the word backwards, as *erif* for *fire*, *dab* for *bad*, etc.: the practice exists in most languages); CANT (*q.v.*); Centre Slang (the central vowel is made the initial letter, vowels and consonants being added at pleasure); Gammy (North country: mainly composed of Gypsy words); Gibberish (formed by inserting a consonant between each syllable of a word, the result being the F, G, H, M or S gibberish, according to the letter used: thus, "goming mout to-daym," or "gosings outs to-days?" = going out to-day?); jargon; the Green Lingo (French thieves'); Marrowskying or Hospital Greek (manufactured by transferring the initial letters of words; *plenty of rain* thus becomes *renty of plain*: the 'Gower St. dialect' of Albert Smith, *Mr. Ledbury*); Pedlar's French (old cant: FLORIO, 1598; COTGRAVE, 1612); RHYMING SLANG (*q.v.*) SLANG (*q.v.*); St. Giles' Greek (last century for Slang as distinguished from Cant); Thieves' Latin; the Vulgar Tongue; YOB-GAB (*q.v.*); NOTIONS (*q.v.*); ZIPH (*q.v.*).

FRENCH AND OTHER ANALOGUES.—*Argot* or *arguche*; *la langue verte* (properly gamesters'); *le langage soudardant* (soldiers'

lingo); *le jars*; *le jargon jobelin*; (COTGRAVE, *Dictionnaire*, 1611. *Jargon* = 'Gibridge, fustian language, Pedlar's French, a barbarous jangling'); *le langage de l'artis*; *langage en lem* (formed by prefixing "l" and adding the syllable "em," preceded by the first letter of the word); thus "*main*" becomes "*lainmem*." A similar mode of dealing with words of more than one syllable is to replace the first consonant by the letter "l," the word being followed by its first syllable preceded by "du"; thus, "*jaquette*" becomes "*laquette du jaq*," or if "m" be used as a key-letter, "*maquette du jaq*," etc.; *le javanais* — here the syllable "av" is interpolated; e.g., "*jave f'avai vavu javendavi*" (= *je l'ai vu jeudi*). GERMAN. — *Rothwalsch* (from *Roter* = beggar or vagabond + *walsch* = foreign); *Gaunersprache* (= thieves' lingo). ITALIAN. — *Lingua gerga* (abbreviated into *gerga*; (FLORIO, 1598 '*gergo*' = Pedlar's French, fustian, or roguish language, gibbrish'); *lingua franca* (Levantine: the source of some English slang); *lingua furbesca*. DUTCH. — *Bargoens*. SPANISH. — *Germania* (the Gypsies were supposed to have come from Germany); *jerigonza*. PORTUGUESE. — *Çalaô* (*Zincali* or *Calo* = Gypsy).

2. Hence, at one period, especially during the Regency days, the idiom of the man about town, of Tom and Jerrydom.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. xxix. To the cultivation in our times, of the Science of Pugilism, the FLASH language is indebted for a considerable addition to its treasures.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc. They were invariably thieves and

gamblers who used FLASH formerly; but other kinds of persons, now-a-day, who may be rippishly inclined, adopt similar terms and phrases, to evince their uppishness in the affairs of life. These gentlemen also consider all terms of art and of science as FLASH; . . . of course, those words and sayings which are appropriate to the turf, the ring, and field sports, are equally considered as FLASH by them, and the word has been applied (too generally we allow), to all this species of *quid pro quo* lingo.

3. (old).—See quot. and cf., with a Shaksperian gloss of FLASH = a burst of wit or merriment.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dict.* (5th ed.), FLASH (s.), also a boast, brag, or great pretence made by a spendthrift, quack, or pretender to more art or knowledge than he really has.

4. (old).—A showy swindler. (e.g., the Sir Petronel Flash of quot.); a blustering vulgarian.

1605. MARSTON, JONSON, and CHAPMAN, *Eastward Hoe!* iv. 1. 'Sir Petronel Flash, I am sorry to see such FLASHES come from a gentleman of your quality.

1632. SHIRLEY. *Love in a Maze*, i., 2. The town is full of these vain-glorious FLASHES.

5. (old).—A peruke or perriwig,

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*. RUM FLASH, a fine long wig. QUEER FLASH, a miserable weather-beaten caxon.

6. (common).—A portion; a drink; or GO (*q.v.*). Cf., FLASH OF LIGHTNING, sense 1.

*Adj.* (common).—1. Relating to thieves, their habits, customs, devices, lingo, etc.

1782. GEO. PARKER, *Humorous Sketches*, p. 34. No more like a kiddy he'll roll the FLASH song.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, 'Long Ned's Song.' And rarely have the gentry FLASH, in sprucer clothes been seen.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. viii. I suppose you don't know what a beak is, my FLASH com-pan-i-on.

1852. SNOWDON, *Mag. Assistant* 3rd ed., p. 448. I have seen Cheeks (a FLASH name for an accomplice).

1863. C. READE, *Hard Cash*, II., 244. He used some FLASH words, and they were shown into a public room.

1864. *Cornhill Magazine*, ii., 336. In the following verse, taken from a pet FLASH song, you have a comic specimen of this sort of guilty chivalry.

2. (thieves').—Knowing; expert; showy. Cf., DOWN, FLY, WIDE-AWAKE, etc. Hence (popularly), by a simple transition, vulgarly counterfeit, showily shoddy: possibly the best understood meanings of the word in latter-day English. TO PUT ONE FLASH TO ANYTHING = to put him on his guard; to inform.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 19. Another philosopher, Seneca, has shown himself equally FLASH on the subject.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 17. Laying aside the knowing look, and FLASH air, with which he had repeated the previous anecdote.

1836. MARRYAT, *Japhet*, etc., ch. lvii. He considered me as . . . a FLASH pickpocket rusticating until some hue and cry was over.

1839. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard*, p. 138 (ed. 1840). 'Awake! to be sure I am, my FLASH cove,' replied Sheppard.

1865. M. E. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. v. He . . . took out the little packet of bank-notes. 'I suppose you can understand these,' he said. The languid youth . . . looked dubiously at his customer. 'I can understand as they might be FLASH uns,' he remarked, significantly.

1888. C. D. WARNER, *Their Pilgrimage*, p. 157. The FLASH riders or horse-breakers, always called 'broncho busters,' can perform really marvellous feats.

3. (originally thieves', now general).—Vulgar, or blackguardly; showy; applied to one aping his betters. Hence (in Australia), vain glorious or swaggering. The idea conveyed is always one of vulgarity or showy blackguardism.

1830. Sir E. B. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford* (ed. 1854), p. 21. A person of great notoriety among that portion of the *élite* which emphatically entitles itself FLASH.

1861. A. TROLLOPE, *Framley Parsonage*, ch. ix. If the dear friendship of this FLASH Member of Parliament did not represent that value, what else did do so?

1890. G. R. SIMS, *Three Brass Balls*, Pledge xi. The speaker was one of the FLASH young gentlemen who haunt suburban billiard-rooms, who carry chalk in their pockets, and call the marker 'Jack.'

4. (common).—In a set style. Also used substantively.

1819. VAUX, *Flash Dict.*, p. 173. s.v. A person who affects any peculiar habit, as swearing, dressing in a particular manner, taking snuff, etc., merely to be taken notice of is said to do it out of FLASH.

1828. *The English Spy*, vol. I., p. 189. The man upon that half-starved nag Is an Ex S—ff, a strange wag, Half-FLASH and half a clown.

1851. MAYHEW, *Lon. Lab. and Lon. Poor*, i., p. 36. They all of them (coster lads) delight in dressing FLASH as they call it . . . They try to dress like the men, with large pockets in their cord jackets, and plenty of them. Their trousers, too, must fit tight at the knee, and their boots they like as good as possible. A good 'kingsman,' a plush skull-cap, and a seam down the trousers are the great points of ambition with the coster boys.

[Hence, in combination, FLASH-CASE, CRIB, DRUM, HOUSE, KEN, or PANNY (see FLASH-KEN); FLASH-COVE (*q.v.*); FLASH-DISPENSARY (American = a boarding house), especially a swell brothel; FLASH-GENTRY (= the swell mob or higher class of thieves); FLASH-GIRL, MOLL, MOLLISHER, PIECE OF WOMAN (= a showy prostitute); FLASH-JIG (costers = a favourite dance); FLASH-KIDDY (= a dandy); FLASH-LINGO, or SONG (=



'patter,' or a song interlarded with cant words and phrases); FLASH-MAN (*q.v.*); FLASH-NOTE (= a spurious bank-note); FLASH-RIDER (American, *see* BRONCHO-BUSTER); FLASH TOGGERY (= smart clothes; FLASH VESSEL (= a gaudy looking, but undisciplined ship)).

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, [1890], p. 58. The rusticity of Jerry was fast wearing off . . . and he bid fair, etc. . . to chaff with the FLASH MOLLISHERS.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, p. Soon then I mounted in Swell St. High, And sported my FLASHIEST TOGGERY.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., p. 14. The other dances are jigs—FLASH JIGS—hornpipes in fetters—a dance rendered popular by the success of the noted Jack Sheppard.

*Verb* (common).—I. To show; to expose.

[Among combinations may be mentioned, TO FLASH ONE'S IVORIES—to show one's teeth, to grin (*Grose*); TO FLASH THE HASH—to vomit (*Grose*); TO FLASH THE DICKEY—to show the shirt front; TO FLASH THE DIBS—to show or spend one's money; TO FLASH A FAWNEY—to wear a ring; TO FLASH ONE'S GAB—to talk, to swagger, to brag; TO FLASH THE BUBS—to expose the paps; TO FLASH THE MUZZLE (*q.v.*); TO FLASH ONE'S TICKER—to air one's watch; TO FLASH THE DRAG—to wear women's clothes for immoral purposes; TO FLASH THE WHITE GRIN=*see* GRIN; TO FLASH IT (*q.v.*), or TO FLASH ONE'S MEAT (*cf.* MEAT-FLASHER); TO FLASH A BIT (*q.v.*); TO FLASH THE FLAG—to sport an apron; TO FLASH THE WEDGE—to 'fence' the swag, etc.]

1812. VAUX, *Flash Dict.* Don't FLASH YOUR STICKS, don't expose your pistols.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 2. His lordship, as usual, that very great dab At the flowers of rhet'ric, is FLASHING HIS GAB.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc. He FLASHED the BLUNT, made a show of money to dazzle the spectators.

1825. E. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict.* FLASHING HIS IVORY, shew his teeth.

1834. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, (ed. 1864), p. 176.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'The Dead Drummer.' When travelling,

don't FLASH YOUR NOTES or YOUR CASH Before other people—its foolish and rash.

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Villon's Good-Night*. Likewise you molls that FLASH YOUR BUBS, For swells to spot and stand you sam.

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Straight Tip*. Go crying croaks, or FLASH THE DRAG.

TO FLASH A BIT, *verbal phr.* (venery).—To show up; to permit examination; 'TO SPREAD' (*q.v.*); to behave indecently. Said of women only.

TO FLASH IT, or TO FLASH ONE'S MEAT.—To expose the person. [Hence MEAT-FLASHER] (*q.v.*). Said usually of men.

TO FLASH THE MUZZLE (old).—To produce a pistol.

c. 1823. *Ballad* (quoted in *Don Juan* xi.). On the high toby spice FLASH THE MUZZLE In spite of each gallows old scout.

TO FLASH IT ABOUT, or TO CUT A FLASH or DASH, *verbal phr.* (common).—To make a display; to live conspicuously and extravagantly.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iii., p. 220. He FLASHED IT ABOUT a good deal for a long time, going from one place to another. Sometimes he was a lord, at others an earl.

TO GO FLASHING IT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To have sexual intercourse. Forsynonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

FLASH-CASE (or -CRIB, -HOUSE, -DRUM, -KEN, -PANNY, etc.).—I. A house frequented by thieves, as a tavern, lodging-house, fence (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew* FLASH-KEN, c., a house where thieves use, and are connived at.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1821. D. HAGGART, *Life*, 'Glossary,' p. 172. FLASH-KAIN, a house for receiving

stolen goods. [Haggart's spelling, being that of the respectable Edinburgh lawyer who took down his 'confessions' is generally misleading and inaccurate.]

1828. SMEETON, *Doings in London*, p. 39. It is a game in very great vogue among the macers, who congregate nightly at the FLASH-HOUSES.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 50 (ed. 1854). There is one Peggy Lobkins who keeps a public house, a sort of FLASH-KEN called 'The Mug' in Thames Court.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* (ed. 1840), p. 271. I've been to all the FLASH-CASES in town, and can hear nothing of him or his wives. . . . *Ibid.*, p. 135. 'The Black Lion!' echoed Terence, 'I know the house well; by the same token that it's a FLASH-CRIB.'

2. (common).—A brothel; a haunt of loose women.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum* (Flash song quoted under FLASH-PANNEYS). Next for his favourite mot the kiddey looks about, And if she's in a FLASH-PANNY he swears he'll have her out; So he fences all his togs to buy her duds, and then He frisks his master's lob to take her from the bawdy ken.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xvi. (ed. 1840). You know how little I frequent FLASH-HOUSES.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends* (ed. 1862), p. 380. Those troublesome swells, Who come from the play-houses, FLASH-KENS, and hells.

1840. MACAULAY, *Essays*: 'Lord Clive.' The lowest wretches that the company's crimps could pick up in the FLASH-HOUSES of London.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 34. That is Mary Black who keeps the greatest FLASH HOUSE in Leonard Street.

**FLASH-COVE** (also FLASH-COM-PANION), *subs.* (common).—A thief; a sharper; a FENCE (*q.v.*).

1825. E. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict.* FLASH-COVE, the keeper of a place for the reception of stolen goods.

1839. H. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* (1889), p. 60.—'Awake! To be sure I am, my FLASH-COVE!' replied Sheppard.

**FLASH-MAN**, *subs.* (old).—

Primarily a man talking FLASH (*see* *quots.*, 1823 and 1862); hence, a rogue, a thief, the landlord of a FLASH-CASE (*q.v.*). Also a FANCY-JOSEPH (for synonyms, *see* FANCY-MAN). In America, a person with no visible means of support, but living in style and 'showing up' well.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 141. A FLASHMAN is one who lives on the hackneyed prostitution of an unfortunate woman of the town.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, II., 1. Soon one is floored upon the ground. While loud her FLASHMAN cries, 'Arise, my ladybird, arise!'

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., p. 80. Derived from his language, and this again has its appellation (tis suggested) from the first FLASH-MEN being highwaymen, that then generally abounded (circa 1770). He is the favorite, or protector of a prostitute, whose FLASH-MAN he is; and she is called inversely, his FLASH-WOMAN.

c. 1833. *Broadside Ballad*. My FLASH-MAN has gone to sea.

1849. *New South Wales, Past, Present, and Future*, ch. i., p. 14. This man was known to Mr. Day to be what is termed a FLASH-MAN; and, seeing his own imminent danger, he instantly spoke to him and called him a cowardly rascal, and offered to give him shot for shot, while he was re-loading.

1859. H. KINGSLEY, *Geoffrey Hamlyn*, ch. v. You're playing a dangerous game, my FLASHMAN.

1862. SMILES, *Lives of the Engineers*, vol. I., pt. 5, ch. i., p. 307. Those articles were sold throughout the country by pedestrian hawkers, most of whom lived in the wild country called THE FLASH, from a hamlet of that name situated between Buxton, Leek, and Macclesfield . . . Travelling about from fair to fair, and using a cant or slang dialect, they became generally known as FLASH-MEN, and the name still survives (to which may be added: They paid, at first, ready money, but when they had established a credit, paid in promissory notes which were rarely honored.

a. 1873. *Lyra Flagitiosa*. [Quoted in HOTTEN.] My FLASH MAN's in quod, And I'm the gal that's willin', So I'll turn out to-night, And earn an honest shillin'.

**FLASH OF LIGHTNING**, *subs. phr.* (old).—I. A glass of gin; a dram of neat spirit. See GO and DRINKS. Latterly, an 'American drink.' See quot. 1862.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 164, s.v.

1821. P. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* (ed. 1890), p. 79. I have not exactly recovered from the severe effects of the repeated FLASHES OF LIGHTNING and strong claps of thunder, with which I had to encounter last night.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf* (quoted in). But ere they homeward pik'd it, A FLASH OF LIGHTNING was sarv'd round to every one as lik'd it.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, (ed. 1854), p. 141. The thunders of eloquence being hushed, FLASHES OF LIGHTNING, or, as the vulgar say, 'glasses of gin' gleamed about.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 168. The stimulant of a FLASH OF LIGHTNING . . . for so a dram of neat spirit was then called.

1862. E. MACDERMOTT, *Popular Guide to International Exhibition*, 1862, p. 185. In the vestibule of each refreshment room there is an American bar, where visitors may indulge in . . . gum-ticklers, eye-openers, FLASHES OF LIGHTNING . . . and a variety of similar beverages.

2. (nautical). The gold braid on an officer's cap.

**FLASH IN THE PAN**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—Connection without emission. Cf. DRY-BOB (*q.v.*). Also verbally.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, v., 340. Still hawking, still baulking, You FLASH IN THE PAN.

**FLASHY**, *adj.*, and **FLASHILY**, or **FLASHLY**, *adv.* (old: now colloquial). Empty; showy; tawdry; insipid.

1637. MILTON, *Lycidas*, 123. Their lean and FLASHY songs Grate on their scranell pipes of wretched straw.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Batchelor*, Act I., sc. iv. It is oftentimes too late with some of you young, termagant, FLASHY sinners.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 12. A FLASHY town beau.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary*, (5th ed.) FLASHY (*a.*) vain, bragging, boasting, foolish, empty; also anything waterish and unsavoury.

1755. *The World*, No. 149. Whose melodious voices give every syllable (not of a lean and FLASHY, but of a fat and plump song) its just emphasis.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 13, (ed. 1854). Vy it be . . . the gemman vot payed you so FLASHLY.

1837. SONG in DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *The Vulgar Tongue*, p. 42. Your fogle you must FLASHLY tie.

1863. SPEKE, *Journal of the Discovery of the Nile*, p. 154. FLASHILY dressed in coloured cloths and a turban, he sat down in one of our chairs.

1864. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. v. But he evinced no bad taste in the selection of a costume. He chose no gaudy colours, or FLASHILY cut vestments.

1873. *Cassell's Magazine*, Jan., p. 246, col. 2. They are rather prone to dress FLASHILY, and wear, when in full fig, no end of jewellery.

1874. MORTIMER COLLINS, *Frances*, ch. xvii. That wild set of people Captain Heath picked up with—members of Parliament and FLASHY young women—all driving four horses, I don't know where.

1882. *Century Magazine*, xxvi., 295. As stones, they were cheap and FLASHY.

**FLASH-TAIL**, *subs.* (common).—A prostitute.—See TAIL.

1868. *Temple Bar*, xxiv., p. 538-9. Picking-up Moll. . . a FLASHTAIL? a prostitute who goes about the streets at nights trying to pick up toffs.

**FLASHER**, *subs.* (old).—A high-flyer; a fop; a pretender to wit. For synonyms, see DANDY. Also (quct. 2), a BONNET (*q.v.*).

1779. D'ARBLAY, *Diary*, etc. (1876). vol. I., p. 185. They are reckoned the FLASHERS of the place, yet everybody laughs at them for their airs, affectations, and tonish graces and impertinences.



1880. *Derbyshire Gatherer*, p. 128. Long before this date (*circa* 1800) the cant name of FLASHER was applied to the man who sat by the table in the gambling-house to swear how many times he had seen lucky gamblers break the bank.

**FLASHERY**, *subs.* (old).—Inferior, or vulgar, elegance, dash, distinction, display.

**FLASH-YAD**, *subs.* (back-slang).—A day's enjoyment. For synonyms, see FLARE-UP.

**FLASHY BLADE** or **SPARK**, *subs.* *phr.* (old).—A DANDY (*q.v.*); now a cheap and noisy swell, whether male or female; *Cf.*, FLASHER.

1719. DUFFEV, *Pills, etc.*, vi., 104. In youth a nauseous FLASHY FOP, in elder days a bore.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 40. For though all know that FLASHY SPARK, etc.

**FLAT**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. A green-horn; noddy; gull. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD; also SAMMY-SOFT.

1762. GOLDSMITH, *Life of Nash*, in *wks.* p. 546 (*Globe*). Why, if you think me a dab I will get this strange gentleman, or this, pointing to the FLAT. Done! cries the sailor, but you shall not tell him.

1789. G. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 142. Who are continually looking out for FLATS, in order to do them upon the broads, that is, cards.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 59. Poor Johnny Raw, what madness could impel, So rum a FLAT to face so prime a swell.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Misadventures at Margate.' He's been upon the mill, And cos he gammons all the FLATS we calls him Veepin Bill.

1841. LYTTON, *Night and Morning*, bk. II., ch. ix. 'Did he pay you for her?' 'Why, to besure, he gave me a cheque on Coutts.' 'And you took it? My eyes? what a FLAT.'

1847. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch. xiv. I won two hundred of him at the Cocoa-tree. He play, the young FLAT!

1847. *Punch*, vol. XIII., p. 148. It mayn't precisely please the moral FLAT. You won't find fault with it, kind friends, for that.

1848. THACKERAY, *The Book of Snobs*, ch. x. When he does play he always contrives to get hold of a good FLAT.

1857. DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *The Vulgar Tongue*, p. 30. Fawney-droppers gammon the FLATS and take the yokels in.

1866. YATES, *Black Sheep*, I., p. 70. The genius which had hitherto been confined to bridging a pack of cards, or 'securing' a die, talking over a FLAT, or winning money of a greenhorn.

1880. MORTIMER COLLINS, *Thoughts in My Garden*, vol. II., p. 180. Their quack medicines that will cure everything, and their sales of invaluable articles at a loss, and a thousand other devices to catch FLATS.

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Villon's Good-night*. You FLATS and joskins great and small.

1889. *Fall Mall Gazette*, Sept. 21, p. 3, col. 1 (In a London Gambling Hell). The FLATS who play faro (Cross-heading).

2. (American thieves').—An honest man.

3. (American). A lover's dismissal; a jilting.

*Adj.* (colloquial and literary).—Downright; plain; straightforward; as in THAT'S FLAT? a FLAT LIE, "FLAT BURGLARY," etc.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 1 *King Henry IV*, Act I., Sc. 3. *Wor.*: You start away, And lend no ear to my purposes. Those prisoners you shall keep. *Hot.*: Nay, I will; THAT'S FLAT.

1835-40. HALIBURTON, *The Clock-maker*, p. 6, preface (ed. 1862).

1848. LOWELL, *Fable for Critics*, p. 19. (A fetch, I must say, most transparent and FLAT).

[There are other usages, more or less colloquial; e.g., Insipid; tame; dull: as in Macaulay's "FLAT as champagne in decanters." On the Stock Exchange, FLAT=without interest; Stock is borrowed FLAT when no interest is allowed by the lender as security for the due return of the scrip.]

*Verb* (American). To jilt.  
*Cf.*, *subs.*, sense 3. For synonyms, *see* MITTEN.

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. 602. To FLAT, in the West, means to jilt, and is probably derived from another slang phrase, 'to feel flat,' denoting the depression which is apt to follow such a disappointment.

TO FEEL FLAT, *verb. phr.* (American). — 1. To be low-spirited; out of sorts; OFF COLOUR (*q.v.*).

1838. J. C. NEAL, *Charcoal Sketches*. Not to hurt a gentleman's feelings and to make him FEEL FLAT afore the country.

2. (American). — To fail; to give way. Also used substantively.

FLAT AS A FLOUNDER (OR PANCAKE), *phr.* (colloquial). — Very flat indeed. Also FLAT AS BE BLOWED.

1882. *Punch*, vol. LXXXII, p. 177, col. 1.

TO BRUSH UP A FLAT. *See* BRUSHER.

TO PICK UP A FLAT, *verb. phr.* (prostitutes). To find a client. *Fr.*, *lever* or *faire un miché* (*miche* = bread, from *michon* = money. Compare BREADWINNER: under MONOSYLLABLE (*q.v.*)).

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*. On the chance that she will, in the course of the evening, PICK UP A FLAT.

TO HAVE (OR DO) A BIT OF FLAT, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To indulge in sexual intercourse. For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

FLAT-BACK, *subs.* (common). — A bed-bug. For synonyms, *see* NORFOLK HOWARD.

FLAT-BROKE, *adj.* (colloquial). — Utterly ruined; DEAD-BROKE (*q.v.*).

FLAT-CATCHER, *subs.* (common). — An impostor.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, i., 6. *Cope* (speaking of a horse). Well, Master Gull'em, do you think we shall get the FLAT-CATCHER off to-day?

1841. *Blackwood's Mag.*, i., 202. Buttoners are those accomplices of thimble-riggers . . . whose duty it is to act as FLAT-CATCHERS or decoys, by personating flats.

1856. MAYHEW, *Great World of London*, p. 46. And FLAT-CATCHERS, or 'ring-droppers,' who cheat by pretending to find valuables in the street.

1864. *London Review*, June 18, p. 643. 'The Bobby' or chinked-back horse, is another favourite FLAT-CATCHER.

1869. WHYTE-MELVILLE, *M. or N.*, p. 110. Rather a FLAT-CATCHER, Tom? said that nobleman, between the whiffs of a cigar.

FLAT-CATCHING, *subs.* (common). — Swindling.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, p. 118. The no-pinned hero, on being elevated. gave, as a toast, 'Success to FLAT-CATCHING,' which produced roars of laughter and shouts of approbation.

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*. To mark the many kinds of bait that are used in FLAT-CATCHING, as the turf slang has it.

FLATCH, *adj.* (back-slang). — A half. FLATCH-KENNURD = half drunk; FLATCH-YENORK = half-a-crown; FLATCH-YENNEP = a half-penny (*see subs.*, sense 1).

*Subs.* 1. — A half-penny. [An abbreviation of FLATCH-YENNEP.] For synonyms, *see* MAG.

c. 1866. VANCE, *The Chickaleary Cove*. I doesn't care a FLATCH as long as I've a tach.

2 (coiners'). — A counterfeit half-crown. For synonyms, *see* MADZA.

**FLAT-CAP**, *subs.* (old).—A nickname for a citizen of London. [In Henry the Eighth's time flat round caps were the pink of fashion; but when their date was out, they became ridiculous. The citizens continued to wear them long after they were generally disused, and were often satirized for their fidelity].

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in H.*, ch. ii., v. 1. Mock me all over From my FLAT-CAP unto my shining shoes.

1602. DEKKER, *Honest Whore*. Old Plays, iii., 304. Come, Sirrah, you FLAT-CAP, where be those whites?

1605. MARSTON, *Dutch Court*, ii., 1. Wealthy FLAT-CAPS that pay for their pleasure the best of any men in Europe.

1613. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Hon. Man's Fort.*, v. 3. Trade? to the city, child: a FLAT-CAP will become thee.

**FLAT-COCK**, *subs.* (old).—A female. [GROSE, 1785.] For synonyms, see PETTICOAT.

**FLAT-FEET**, *subs.* (common).—Specifically the Foot Guards, but also applied to other regiments of the line. Also (generally with some powerful adjective), applied to militia men to differentiate them from linesmen. For synonyms, see MUD-CRUSHER.

**FLAT-FISH**, (generally, A REGULAR FLAT-FISH) *subs.* (common).—A dullard. [A play upon FLAT = stupid, and FISH = something to HOOK or catch.] For synonyms, see BUFFLE, CABBAGE-HEAD, and SAMMY-SOFT. *Cf.*, Fr., *platpied* = a contemptible fellow.

**FLAT-FOOTED**, *adj.* (American).—Downright; resolute; honest. [Western: the simile, common to most languages, is of a man

standing, his back to the wall, resolute to accomplish his purpose.]

1858. *Harper's Magazine*, Sept. His herculean frame, and bold, FLAT-FOOTED way of saying things, had impressed his neighbours, and he held the rod in terrorism over them.

1871. *Philadelphia Bulletin*, Mar. 23. 'The row at St. Clement's Church.' Now the Committee of the vestry put their FOOT FLATLY down on auricular confession and priestly absolution.

1887. R. A. PROCTOR, *Knowledge*, June 1. When, in America, General Grant said he had PUT HIS FOOT DOWN and meant to advance in that line if it took him all the summer, he conveyed . . . the American meaning of the expression FLAT-FOOTED.

**FLAT-HEAD**, *subs.* (American).—A greenhorn; a SAMMY-SOFT (*q.v.*).

**FLAT-IRON**, *subs.* (common).—A corner public house. [From the triangular shape.]

**FLATTIE** or **FLATTY**, *subs.* (common).—A gull. [A diminutive of FLAT, sense 1.] Formerly cheap-jacks' = one in a new 'pitch.'

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 232. They betray to the FLATTIES (natives) all their profits and proceedings.

**FLAT-MOVE**, *subs.* (old).—An attempt or project that miscarries; folly and mismanagement generally.—GROSE.

**FLATS**, *subs.* (old). 1. Playing cards. For synonyms, see KING'S BOOKS.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 56. He played at FLATS in a budging-crib.

2. (old).—False dice. For synonyms, see FULHAMS.



3. (old).—Base money.

MAHOGANY FLATS, *subs. phr.* (common).—Bed-bugs. For synonyms, see NORFOLK HOWARDS.

**FLATS AND SHARPS**, *subs. phr.* (old).—Weapons.

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, ch. xxx. 'I have known many a pretty lad cut short in his first summer upon the road, because he was something hasty with his FLATS AND SHARPS.'

**FLATTEN OUT**, *verb. phr.* (American).—To get the better of (in argument or fight). For synonyms, see FLOOR. FLATTENED-OUT = ruined; beaten.

**FLATTER-TRAP**, *subs.* (common).—The mouth. Fr., *la menteuse*, but for synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FLATTY-KEN**, *subs.* (thieves')—See quot.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 261. Some take up their abode in what they call FLATTY-KENS, that is, houses the landlord of which is not 'awake' or 'fly' to the 'moves' and dodges of the trade.

**FLAWED**, *ppl. adj.* (common).—1. Half drunk; 'a little crooked'; quick-tempered.—GROSE. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (venery).—'Cracked in the ring'; i.e., deflowered.

**FLAY** (or FLAY THE FOX), *verb. phr.* (old).—To vomit; 'from the subject to the effect,' says COT-GRAVE; 'for the flaying of so stinking a beast is like enough to make them spue that feel it.'

Now, TO SHOOT THE CAT. For synonyms, see ACCOUNTS and CAST UP ACCOUNTS. Cf., FOX, *verb.* sense 1.

1653. URQUHART, *Rabelais*, bk. I., ch. xi. He would FLAY THE FOX.

2. (American).—To clean out by unfair means.

TO FLAY or SKIN A FLINT, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be mean or miserly. See SKINFLINT.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. He'll FLAY or SKINN A FLINT of a Meer Scrat or Miser.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, vol. II., p. 194 (ed. 1846). Report says she would SKIN A FLINT if she could.

**FLAYBOTTOM** or **FLAYBOTTOMIST**, *subs.* (common).—A school-master, with a play on the word phlebotomist = a blood-letter.—GROSE. Fr., *fouette-cul*; and (COTGRAVE) "*Fesse-cul*, a pedantical whip-ar-se."

**FLAVOUR**, TO CATCH (or GET) THE FLAVOUR. *verb. phr.* (common).—1. To be intoxicated. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (venery). To be 'half-on' for coition; to wax PROUD (*q.v.*): said of men and women both.

**FLAX**, *verb.* (American).—To beat severely; TO GIVE IT HOT (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see TAN.

**FLAX-WENCH**, *subs.* (old).—A prostitute. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, i., 2. My wife's a hobby-horse; deserves a name As rank as any FLAX-WENCH.

**FLEA.** TO SEND AWAY WITH A FLEA IN THE EAR. *verb. phr.* (common). — To dismiss with vigour and acerbity.

1854. *Notes and Queries*, 8 Apl., p. 322, col. 2. The luckless applicant is peremptorily dismissed with an imperative 'flee!' . . . or, facetiously, WITH A FLEA IN HIS EAR.

TO HAVE A FLEA IN THE EAR = (1) to fail in an enterprise; and (2) to receive a scolding, or annoying suggestion.

TO SIT ON A BAG OF FLEAS. *verb. phr.* (common). — To sit uncomfortably; ON A BAG OF HEN FLEAS = very uncomfortably indeed.

TO CATCH FLEAS FOR, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To be on terms of extreme intimacy: *e.g.*, 'I catch her fleas for her' = She has nothing to refuse me. *Cf.*, Shakspeare (*Tempest*, III., 2.), 'Yet a tailor might scratch her where'er she did itch.'

IN A FLEA'S LEAP, *adv. phr.* (old). — In next to no time; INSTANTER (*q.v.*).

**FLEA-AND-LOUSE**, *subs.* (rhyming slang). A house. For synonyms, see **KEN**.

**FLEA-BAG**, *subs.* (common). — A bed; *Fr. un pucier*. For synonyms, see **KIP**.

1839. LEVER, *Harry Lorrequer*, ch. xl. 'Troth, and I think the gentleman would be better if he went off to his FLEA-BAG himself.'

**LEA-BITE**, *subs.* (old). — A trifle.

1630. TAYLOR, *Works*. If they dose lose by pirates, tempests, rocks, 'Tis but a FLEABITE to their wealthy stockes; Whilst the poore cutpurse day and night doth

toile, Watches and wardes, and doth himsele turmoile.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**FLEA-BITING**, *subs.* (old). — A trifle.

1621. BURTON, *Anatomy of Melancholy*. Their miseries are but FLEA BITINGS to thine.

**FLEA-** (or **FLAY-**) **FLINT**, *subs.* (old). — A miser: *Cf.*, **SKIN FLINT** (*q.v.*).

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., i., 141. The FLEA-FLINTS . . . strip me bare.

**FLEAR**, *verb.* (old). — To grin. A FLEARING FOOL = a grinning idiot.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*.

**FLEECE**, *subs.* (old). — An act of theft. *Cf.*, old proverb, 'to go out to shear and come home shorn.' For synonyms, see **SKIN**.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLEECE, to Rob, Plunder, or strip.

1703. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *Beau's Duel*, ii., 2. Had a FLEECE at his purse.

2. (venery). — The female pubic hair. *Fr. toison* (BAUDELAIRE); *It., barbiglioni* (FLORIO). For foreign synonyms, see **MOTT**.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Banner (Durfey); bandoliers (old); beard; bearskin; belly-bristles; belly-thicket; belly-whiskers; Boskage of Venus; broom; brush; bush; cat-skin; cloverfield; cunny-skin (Durfey); Cupid's Arbour; cunt-curtain; damber, dilberry, gooseberry, furze, quim, or whin-bush; down; Downshire; front-door-mat; feather (Prior and Moore); fluff; forest (Donne); fud (Burns); fur; fur-below (old catch); 'grove of eglantine' (Carew); hedge on

the dyke; lower-wig (Burton); moss; mott-carpet; mustard-and-ress; nether eye-brow (or -lashes); nether-whiskers; parsley (Durfey); plush; quim-whiskers; quim-wig; scut (Shakspeare); shaving-brush (*cf.*, LATHER); scrubbing-brush; shrubbery; sporran; stubble (*see* POINTER); sweet-briar; thatch; tail-feathers; 'toupee'; 'tufted honours'; twat-rug.

*Verb* (now recognised).—To cheat; to shear or be shorn (as a sheep).

1593. NASHE, *Christ's Teares*, in wks. (Grosart) IV. 140. Tell me (almost) what gentleman hath been cast away at sea, or disasterly souldionized it by lande, but they (usurers) have enforst him thereunto by their FLEECEING.

1598. SHAKSPEARE, *I King Henry IV.*, ii., 2. Down with them: FLEECE them!

1620. DEKKER, *His Dreame*, in wks. (Grosart) III. 52. Catchpolfes, and varlets, who did poore men FLEECE (To their undoing) for a twelve-peny peece.

1712. ARBUTHNOT, *Hist. of John Bull*, pt. IV., ch. ii. When a poor man has almost undone himself for thy sake, thou art for FLEECEING him.

1822. SCOTT, *Fort. of Nigel*, ch. xxiii. He is now squeezed and FLEECEED by them on every pretence.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 106. He was stabbed by the Ragamuffin be had FLEECEED.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch' xxxi. Bloundell is a professional black-leg, and travels the Continent, where he picks up young gentlemen of fashion and FLEECEES them.

1859. *Times*, 25 Oct. 'Review of Dean Ramsay's *Reminiscences*.' I don't know whether they are black or white sheep, but I know that if they are long there they are pretty certain to be FLEECEED.

1891. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 16 Jan. How you would be FLEECEED! You've got a lot to learn yet.

Hence FLEECEED = ruined; DEAD-BROKE (*q.v.* for synonyms).

**FLEECER**, *subs.* (old).—A thief.

1600-69. PRYNN, *Breviate*. Not FLEECERS, but feeders.

**FLEECE-HUNTER**, or **-MONGER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A whore-master. For synonyms, *see* MOL-ROWER.

**FLEETER-FACE**, *subs.* (old).—A pale-face; a coward. *Cf.*, Shakspeare's 'cream-faced loon.'

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Queen of Corinth*. You know where you are, you FLEETER-FACE.

**FLEET-NOTE**, *subs.* (old).—A forged note.

1821. *Real Life in London*.

**FLEET OF THE DESERT**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A caravan; *cf.*, SHIP OF THE DESERT = camel.

**FLEET-STREET**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—The estate of journalism, especially journalism of the baser sort.

**FLEET-STREETER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A journalist of the baser sort; a spunging PROPHET (*q.v.*); a sharking dramatic critic; a SPICY (*q.v.*) paragonist; and so on.

**FLEET-STREETESE**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—The so-called English, written to sell by the FLEET-STREETER (*q.v.*), or baser sort of journalist: a mixture of sesquipedalians and slang, of phrases worn threadbare and phrases sprung from the kennel; of bad grammar and worse manners; the like of which is impossible outside FLEET-STREET (*q.v.*), but which in FLEET-STREET commands a price, and enables not a few to live.



**FLEG**, *verb.* (old). — To whip.  
BAILEY.

**FLEMISH ACCOUNT**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A remittance less than was expected; hence, an unsatisfactory account. [Among the Flemings (the merchants of Western Europe when commerce was young) accounts were kept in livres, sols, and pence; but the livre or pound only = 12s., so that what the Antwerp merchant called one livre thirteen and fourpence would in English currency be only 20s.]

1668. T. BROWN, *The Accurate Accomptant*, etc. Quoted in *N. and Q.* 1. S. 1., 286. London, August 10th, 1668. To Roger Pace, Factor, etc., for 10 pieces cont. 746 Ells Fl. at 10s. Flem. per Ell is £373 Flem. Exchange at 35s. makes Sterling Money £213 2s. 10d.

1774-1826. *Typ. Antig.*, p. 1773. A person resident in London is said to have had most of Caxton's publications. He sent them to Amsterdam for inspection, and on writing for them was informed that they had been destroyed by accident. 'I am very much afraid,' says Herbert, 'my kind friend received but a FLEMISH ACCOUNT of his Caxton's.'

1785. GROSSE. *Dict. Vulg. Tong.*  
FLEMISH ACCOUNT, a losing or bad account.

**FLESH**, *subs.* (old).—Generic for the organs of generation, male or female. Also (of women) FLESHLY-PART.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, iv., 3. She would not exchange FLESH with one that loved her.

1605. *Cymbeline*, i., 5. If you buy ladies' FLESH at a million a dram you cannot preserve it from tainting.

1620. PERCY. *Folio MSS.* (Hales & Furnivall, 1867). 'As I was riding by the way.' Sweet hart, shall I put my FLESH in thine?

**FLESH**, *verb.*, or, **FLESH IT**; or, **TO BE FLESHED IN** (venery).—To have carnal knowledge of—to be 'one flesh with'—a woman. [For synonyms, see GREENS and

RIDE.] An equivalent in the passive sense is **TO FEEL HIS FLESH IN ONE'S BODY** (said by women only).

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes, Andar in Carnafau*. To go a FLESHING or a wenching: (*Carnafau*=the brat-gettingplace; the hole of content).

**FLESH AND BLOOD**, *subs. phr.* (common).—Brandy and port in equal proportions. See DRINKS.

**FLESH-BAG**, *subs.* (common).—A shirt or chemise.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Biled rag (American); camea; carrion-case; commission; dickey (formerly a worn-out shirt); gad (gipsy); lully; mill tog; mish; narp (Scots'); shaker; shimmy (=a chemise, Marryat); smish.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Une liquette* or *limace* (thieves': from the Gypsy. The form also occurs also in the Italian *lima*); *un panais* (popular).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Kamis*, *Kamsel*, *Kemsel*, or *Gemsel* (from med. Lat., *Camisiale*; Fr. *camisole*); *Kesones*, *Kusones*, or *Ksones* (also = cotton and underclothing); *Staude* or *Stauden*; *Hanfstandt* (*Liber Vagatorum*: literally hempshrub).

ITALIAN SYNONYM.—*Lima* (see Fr., *limace*).

1820. *London Magazine*, 1., 29. They are often without a FLESH-BAG to their backs.

**FLESH-BROKER**, *subs.* (old).—1. A match-maker.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLESH-BROKER, a match-maker; also a bawd; between whom but little difference, for they both (usually) take money.

2. A procuress [GROSE]. Cf., FLESH-FLY, FLESH-MONGER,

and FLESH-MARKET. For synonyms, *see* MOTHER.

**FLESH-FLY** (also, **FLESH-MAGGOT**), *subs.* (old). — A whoremaster. For synonyms, *see* MOLROWER.

1781. COWPER, *Progress of Error*, 323-324. Oh! that a verse had power, and could command far, Far away, these FLESH-FLIES of the land.

**FLESH - MARKET**, or **FLESH-SHAMBLER**, *subs.* (common). — A brothel or FLASH-HOUSE (*q.v.*); also the pavement, in Piccadilly or Regent-street, for instance, where whores do congregate. *Cf.*, MEATMARKET.

1668. JOHN DAY, *Humour out of Breath*, II. *I Asp.* . . . She may be well discended; if shee be, Shee's fit for love, and why not then for me. *Boy.* And you be not fitted in Venice 'tis strange, for 'tis counted the best FLESH-SHAMBLER in Italie.

**FLESH-MONGER**; *subs.* (old). — A procurer; a whore-master. [From Eng. FLESH + MONGER]. For synonyms, *see* MOTHER and MOLROWER. *Cf.*, FLESH-FLY, FLESH-MARKET, and FLESH-BROKER.

1603. SHAKESPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, V., i. And was the duke a FLESH-MONGER, a fool, and a coward, as you then reported him to be?

**FLESHMONGERING**. TO GO FLESH-MONGERING, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To quest for women; to GO ON THE PROWL (*q.v.*), or AFTER MEAT. *See* GREENS and RIDE.

**FLESH-POT**. SIGHING FOR THE FLESH-POTS OF EGYPT. *phr.* (common). — Hankering for good things no longer at command. [Biblical].

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 131. Do you think it is a HANKERING AFTER THE FLESH-POTS, and that the canon's cook reconciles me to the canon's opinions?

**FLESH-TAILOR**, *subs.* (old). — A surgeon. For synonyms, *see* SAWBONES.

1633. FORD, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*, iii. Oh, help! help! help! Oh, for a FLESH-TAILOR quickly.

**FLESHY**, *subs.* (Winchester College). — *See* CAT'S HEAD.

**FLETCH**, *subs.* (prison). A spurious coin. *Cf.*, FLATCH.

**FLICK**, or **FLIG**, *subs.* (colloquial). — I. A cut with a whip-lash; hence, a blow of any sort. A FLICKING is often administered by schoolboys with a damp towel or pocket-handkerchief. For synonyms, *see* TANNING.

1750. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk. VI., ch. ii. 'I do know you are a woman, cries the squire, "and it's well for thee, that art one; if hadst been a man, I promise thee I had lent thee a FLICK long ago.

1787. GROSE, *Provincial Glossary*, s.v. VLICK.

2. (common). — A jocular salutation; usually OLD FLICK. *Cf.*, CODGER and MY TULIP.

1883. *Punch*, 28 July, p. 38, col. 1. Well, last night, They'd a feet in these gardens, old FLICK, as was something too awfully quite.

*Verb.* (thieves'). — I. To cut.

1690. B.E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLICKING, *c.*, to cut, cutting.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.* (FLICK is given as a 'country word').

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg.* Tongue-FLICK me some pannam and cassan, cut me some bread and cheese; FLICK the peter, cut off the cloak bag or port-manteau.

1791. CAREW, *Life and Adventures*, q.v.

1837. DISRAELI, *Venetia*, ch. xiv. FLICK the bread, cut the bread.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v. FLICK the Peter and rake the swag for I want to pad my beaters.

2. (colloquial). — To strike with, or as with, a whip.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xliii. Near him, leaning listlessly against the wall, stood a strong-built countryman, FLICKING with a worn-out hunting whip the top-boot that adorned his right foot.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xxvii. Who . . . receives this compliment by FLICKING Mr. George in the face with a head of greens.

1854. *Our Cruise in the Undine*, p. 103. It appeared to us that one of the most frequent, and therefore we supposed the principal stroke aimed at (in a Heidelberg duel), was to strike your sword low down, perhaps four inches from the handle, upon your adversary's bandaged arm, so that the end of the weapon (the only part that is sharpened) would FLICK itself against your opponent's face.

1863. HON. MRS. NORTON, *Lost and Saved*, p. 29. Drivers shouting, swearing, and FLICKING at the horses.

FLICKER, *subs.* (Old Cant). — A drinking glass.

1690. B.E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLICKER, *c.*, a drinking-glass. FLICKER SNAPT, *c.*, the glass is broken; NIM THE FLICKER, *c.*, steal the glass; RUM FLICKER, *c.*, a large glass or rummer; QUEER FLICKER, *c.*, a green or ordinary glass.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Une lampe* (masons'); *un guindal* (popular); *un godet* (very old); *une gobette* (thieves'); *un gobeson* (thieves').

Verb. I. To drink. — MATSELL.

2. (old). — To laugh wantonly; also to kiss, or lewdly fondle a woman. — PALSGRAVE. For synonyms, see FIRKYTOODLE.

1690. B.E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. FLICKER, to grin or flout.

Also FLICKING = (1) drinking, and (2) wanton laughter.

LET HER FLICKER, *phr.* (American). — Said of any doubtful issue: 'let the matter take its chance.'

FLICKET-A-FLACKET, *adv.* (old). — Onomatopoeic for a noise of flapping and flicking.

1719. DURFEEY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 20. Their bellies went FLICKET-A-FLACKET.

FLIER or FLYER, *subs.* (racing and yachting). — 1. A horse or boat of great speed; also (American railway) a fast train; hence, by implication, anything of excellence. Cf., Dasher, Daisy, etc. Also *adj.*, = keen for.

1865. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. xxii. The mare's in splendid condition; well, you saw her take her trial gallop the other morning, and you must know she's a FLIER, so I won't talk about her.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 156. Atalanta might be a FLYER, but an artist like Pycroft, with a clever colt like Newsmonger under him, was quite likely to outride whatever boy Mr. Pipes might now be able to pick up.

1888. *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 2 Mar. In spite of the strike passenger trains, what are known as the FLYERS, are running with reasonable regularity.

1890. *Bird o' Freedom*, 19 Mar., p. 1, col. 1. Clearly the G.O.M. is no FLIER over this course.

1891. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 20 Mar. Although he may doubtless be made a good deal better he may turn out to be no FLIER.

1891. BURY AND HILLIER, *Cycling*, p. 6. A moderate rider, not being an athlete or a FLIER . . . can . . . get over in an hour seven or eight miles of ground on a tricycle.



1891. *Anti-Jacobin*, 23 May, p. 400. When Dangerous, Plenipotentiary, Bay Middleton, and other FLYERS ran.

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 28 Mar. In any event, he was never a FLYER at breakfast. But late at night, and when, perhaps, he tumbled across something equivalent to woodcock, tripe and onions, or a hot lobster, say, why then, take my word for it, he made up for previous abstinence.

1891. *National Observer*, 1 Aug. It remains to be seen whether large yachts constructed on the same principle will be equally invincible: that is, if the FLYERS we have are one and all to disappear.

2. (football).—A shot in the air. *See* MADE-FLYER.

3. (American).—A small hand-bill; a DODGER (*q.v.*).

TO TAKE A FLIER (American trade).—1. To make a venture; to invest against odds.

2. (venery).—To copulate in haste (GROSE); to do a FAST-FUCK (*q.v.*).

**FLIES**, *subs.* (rhyming).—Lies, Hence, nonsense; trickery; deceit.

THERE ARE NO FLIES ON ME, ON HIM, etc., *phr.* (common).—‘I am dealing honestly with you;’ ‘he is genuine, and is not humbugging.’ In America, the expression is used of (1) a man of quick parts, a man who ‘knows a thing without its being kicked into him by a mule’; and (2) a person of superior breeding or descent. Sometimes the phrase is corrupted into ‘no fleas.’ *See* GAMMON.

1868. DIPROSE, ST. CLEMENT DANES, *Past and Present*. To Deaf Burke, the celebrated pugilist, is attributed the old story of the ‘flies and the gin and water;’ and hence the term ‘no flies’ became prevalent. Burke had ordered . . . some hot and strong and a dash of lemon.’ The goblet was brought . . . Burke raised . . . the nectar to his lips, and beheld some

dissipated flies lying at the bottom of the tumbler; he placed the glass on the table, and deliberately removed the flies with the spoon, five or six in number, and laid them side by side before him, and then giving a hearty pull at the gin and water, he as deliberately replaced the flies . . . and passed it to his friend. His companion stared angrily. ‘Do you dare to insult me, and in the presence of company?’ said the irate *vis-à-vis*. ‘Pardon me,’ replied Burke, quietly handing the glass a second time, ‘though I don’t drink FLIES myself, I didn’t know but what others might.’

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 25 Aug. THERE AIN’T NO FLIES ON HIM, signifies, that he is not quiet long enough for moss to grow on his heels, that he is wide awake.

1888. *Missouri Republican*, 24 Feb. People who are capable of descending to New York and Boston English are fully justified in saying that THERE ARE NO FLIES ON ST. LOUIS or the St. Louis delegation either.

**FLIGGER** (also FLICKER), *verb.* (old).—To grin.

1720. DUFREY *Pills*, etc., vi., 267. He FLIGGERED, and told me for all my brave alls He would have a stroke.

**FLIM**.—*See* FLIMSY.

**FLIM-FLAM**, *subs.* (old).—An idle story; a sham; a ROBINHOOD TALE (*q.v.*). A duplication of FLAM (*q.v.*).

1589. *Pappe with an Hatchet* (ed. 1844) p. 39. Trusse up thy packet of FLIM-FLAMS, and roage to some country faire, or read it among boyes in the belfrie.

1630. TAYLOR, *Workes*. They with a courtly trickes, or a FLIM-FLAM, do nod at me, whilst I the noddie am.

1750. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk. XVIII., ch. xii. I thought thou hadst been a lad of higher mettle than to give way to a parcel of maidenish tricks. I tell thee ’tis all FLIM-FLAM.

1780. MRS. COWLEY, *The Belle’s Stratagem*, iii., 1. Mr. Curate, don’t think to come over me with your FLIM-FLAMS, for a better man than ever trod in your shoes is coming over-sea to marry me.

1805. ISAAC DISRAELI, *FLIM-FLAMS; or the Life and Errors of my Uncle, and the Amours of my Aunt* [title].

1825. C. LAMB, *Munden* (in *London Magazine*) Feb. I wonder you can put such FLIM-FLAMS upon us, sir.

*Adj.* (old).—Idle; worthless.

1589. NASHE, *Month's Minde*, in wks. Vol. I., p. 174. But to leaue thy FLIM-FLAM tales and loytering lies.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes. Filastroccola*, FLIM-FLAM tales, old wiues tales as they tell when they spinne, a tale without rime or reason, or head or foote.

1633. T. NEWTON, *Lennie's Touchstone of Complexions*, p. 120. Reporting a FLIM-FLAM tale of Robin Hood.

1750. OZELL's *Rabelais*, vol. V., p. 247. Glibly swallow down every FLIM-FLAM story that's told them.

1853. LYTTON, *My Novel*, bk. X., ch. xix. I wish you'd mind the child—it is crumpling up and playing almighty smash with that FLIM-FLAM book, which cost me one pound one.

**FLIMP**, *verb.* (thieves').—I. To hustle or rob. TO PUT ON THE FLIMP—to rob on the highway. For synonyms, see CRACK and PRIG.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime*, p. 111. To take a man's watch is to FLIMP him, it can only be done in a crowd, one gets behind and pushes him in the back, while the other in front is robbing him.

1857. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assistant*, 3rd ed., p. 445, s.v.

2. (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see RIDE.

**FLIMPING**, *subs.* (thieves').—Stealing from the person.

1857. DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *The Vulgar Tongue*, p. 38. He told me as Bill had FLIMPED a yak.

1862. *Cornhill Mag.*, vol. vi., p. 651. We are going a-FLIMPING, buzzing, cracking, etc.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. lx. FLIMPING is a style of theft which I have never practised, and, consequently of which I know nothing.

**FLIMSY**, or **FLIM**, *subs.* (common).—1. A bank-note. [From the thinness of the paper.] **SOFT-FLIMSY** = a note drawn on 'The Bank of Elegance,' or 'The Bank of Engraving.' For synonyms, see **SOFT**.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1818. P. EGAN, *Boxiana*, iv., 443. Martin produced some FLIMSIES and said he would fight on Tuesday next.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends* ('Merchant of Venice'). Not 'kites, manufactured to cheat and inveigle, But the right sort of FLIMSY, all sign'd, by Monteaagle.

1855. *Punch*, XXIX., 10. 'Will you take it in FLIMSIES, or will you have it all in tin?'

1870. *Chambers' Journal*, 9 July, p. 448. 'What would it be worth?' 'A FLIM, Sam.'

1884. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 Apl., col. 3. One of the slang terms for a spurious bank-note is a **SOFT-FLIMSY**.

1891. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 149. Next morning when I went to the bank to collect the swag, they stopped the FLIMSY, and had me arrested before I could look round.

2. (journalists').—News of all kinds; **POINTS** (*q.v.*). [From the thin prepared paper used by pressmen for making several copies at once]. First used at Lloyd's.

1861. *Cornhill Magazine*, iv., 199 'At Westminster,' my lord is neither a mumbling nor a short-tempered judge; he will . . . read them a great deal of his notes, which are a thousand-fold clearer, fuller, and more accurate than the reporter's FLIMSY.

1865. *Morning Star* ('The Fleaneur'). A London correspondent, who, by the aid of FLIMSY misleads a vast number of provincial papers.

1870. *London Figaro*, 23 Sept. 'Special Lining.' We do not think it is

altogether worthy of the high repute of the *Pall Mall Gazette* to publish FLIMSY as a special correspondence.

1876. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, ch. xviii. The sharpest of the reporters had his FLIMSY up in a minute, and took notes of the proceedings.

**FLINDERS**, *subs.* (common). — Pieces infinitesimally small.

1870. *New York Evening Sun*, 24 May. Report of Speech of Mr. Chandler. Let us knock the British crown to FLINDERS; let us arrange for some one or two hundred thousand British graves forthwith, and cabbage the whole boundless continent without any further procrastination.

**FLING**, *subs.* (colloquial). — 1. A fit of temper.

2. (common). — A jeer; a jibe; a personal allusion or attack.

1592. SHAKESPEARE, *I Henry VI.*, iii., 1. Then would I have a FLING at Winchester.

1888. *Star*, 10 Oct. Those writers who had a FLING at Idlesleigh after his poor running at Stockton will have to take their words back some day.

1890. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 24 July, p. 4. col. 2. As the disputants warmed up, little personal FLINGS were of course introduced

*Verb* (old). — 1. To cheat; to get the best of; to DO (*q.v.*) or diddle. — GROSE.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xxi. FLUNG the governor out of a guinea.

2. (Scots). — To dance.

1790. BURNS, *Tam O' Shanter*. To tell how Maggie lapt and FLANG (A souple jaud she was, and strang).

3. (venery). — To move in the act; to BACK-UP (*q.v.*). Fr., '*frizer la queue*' = to wriggle the taylor (in leaching). — COT-GRAVE.

1539. DAVID LYNDISAY, *Three Estaitis*, Works (Ed. Laing, Edinburgh, 1879). I traist sche sal find you FLINGING your fill.

To FLING OUT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To depart in a hurry, and, especially, in a temper.

To FLING (or FLAP) IT IN ONE'S FACE, *verb. phr.* (prostitutes') — To expose the person.

IN A FLING, *adv. phr.* (colloquial). — In a spasm of temper.

To HAVE ONE'S FLING, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To enjoy full liberty of action or conduct. Cf., HIGH OLD TIME.

1624. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Rule a Wife, &c.*, iii., 5. I'll have a FLING.

1846-8. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch. xiii. Hang it; the regiment's just back from the West Indies, I must HAVE A LITTLE FLING, and then when I'm married I'll reform.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, II., 118. I don't want to marry until I HAVE HAD MY FLING, you know.

1880. GILBERT, *Pirates of Pensance*. Peers will be peers, And youth will HAVE HIS FLING.

1891. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 253. If policy (police) show up, then you let me HAVE MY FLING, eh?

To FLING DIRT. — See DIRT.

**FLINGER**, *subs.* (Scots). — A dancer.

1821. SCOTT, *Pirate*, ch. ix. That's as muckle as to say, that I suld hae minded you was a FLINGER and a fiddler yoursel', Maister Mordaunt,

**FLING-DUST**, *subs.* (old). — A street-walker. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

**FLINT**, *subs.* (workmen's). A man working for a 'Union' or 'fair' house; non-Unionists are DUNG (*q.v.*). Both terms occur in Foote's burlesque, *The Tailors: a Tragedy for Warm Weather*, and they received a fresh lease of popularity during the tailors'



strike of 1832. *See* quots. *Cf.*, SCAB SOC, SNOB, SNOB-STICK, and KNOBSTICK.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, FLINTS, journeyman taylors who, on a late occasion, refused to work for the wages settled by law. Those who submitted were by the mutineers stiled dungs, *i.e.*, dunghills.

1832. P. EGAN, *Book of Sports*, p. 34. Jack Reeve is without a rival; the throne of the FLINTS is decidedly freehold property to him.

1834. *Noctes Amb.*, xxxiv., vol. IV., p. 83. (The company is discussing the tailors' strike). TICKLER. The FLINTS flash fire, and the day of the dungs is gone.

OLD FLINT, *subs. phr.* (common). A miser; one who would 'skin a flint,' *i.e.*, stoop to any meanness for a trifle.

1840. DICKENS, *Old Curiosity Shop*, ch. vii., p. 34. It's equally plain that the money which the OLD FLINT—rot him—first taught me to expect that I should share with her at his death, will all be hers.

TO FIX ONE'S FLINT. *See* FIX.

TO FLINT IN, *verb. phr.* (American). To act with energy; not to stand on ceremony; to pitch into; to tackle. A verb of action well-nigh as common as FIX (*q.v.*).

FLIP, *subs.* (common). — 1. Hot beer, brandy, and sugar; also, says Grose, called SIR CLOUDESLEY after Sir Cloudeley Shovel. *See* DRINKS.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLIP, Sea Drink, of small beer (chiefly) and brandy, sweetened and spiced upon occasion.

1690. WARD, *London Spy*, part II., p. 41. After the drinking a Kan of Philip or a Bowl of Punch.

1705. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. I., pt. 4, p. 8. So have I seen on board of ship, Some knawing beef, some spewing FLIP.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Rod. Random*, ch. xxiv. He . . . sent for a can of beer, of which he made excellent FLIP to crown the banquet.

1810. CRABBE, *The Borough*, Letter 16. Nay, with the seamen working in the ship, At their request, he'd share the grog and FLIP.

1875. C. D. WARNER, *Backlog Studies*, p. 13. It was thought best to heat the poker red-hot before plunging it into the mugs of FLIP.

2. (popular). — A bribe or douceur.

3. (common). — A light blow, or snatch.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 23. Barney made a very unceremonious FLIP at the bit.

*Verb* (thieves'). — To shoot.

1819. VAUX, *Flash Dict.*, s.v.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood* (ed 1864), p. 273. FLIP him, Dick; fire, or I'm taken.

TO FLIP UP *verb. phr.* (American). — To spin a coin.

1879. *New York Tribune*, 4 Oct. The two great men could FLIP UP to see which should have the second place.

FLIP-FLAP, *subs.* 1 (old). — 1. A flighty creature.

1702. VANBRUGH, *False Friend*. 1. The light airy FLIP-FLAP, she kills him with her motions.

2. (popular). A step-dance; a CELLAR-FLAP (*q.v.*). Also (acrobat's); a kind of somersault, in which the performer throws himself over on his hands and feet alternately.

1727. GAY, *Fables*, 'Two Monkies.' The tumbler whirls the FLIP-FLAP round. With sommersets he shakes the ground.

1872. BRADDON, *Dead Sea Fruit*, ch. xiv. There ain't nothing you can't do, Morty, from Shylock to a FLIP-FLAP.



1889. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 12 Nov., p. 6, col. 2. There were the clowns who danced, turned somersaults, FLIP-FLAPS, and contorted themselves.

3. (American). A kind of tea-cake.

1876. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, ch. xviii. 'The first evening I took tea with Mrs. Scrimmager. 'It must be more than a mite lonely for you,' she said, as we sat over her dough-nuts and FLIP-FLAPS.

4. (nautical). The arm. For synonyms, see BENDER.

5. (venery). The penis.

1653. URQUHART, *Rabelais*, I., 20. I might have cleft her water-gap And joined it close with my FLIP-FLAP.

**FLIPPER**, *subs.* (nautical and common). 1. The hand. TIP US YOUR FLIPPER=give me your hand. [From the flipper or paddle of a turtle.] For synonyms, see DADDLE and MAULEY.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Lay of St. Gengulphus.' With those great sugar-nippers they nipp'd off his FLIPPERS, As the clerk, very flippantly, termed his fists.

1884. *Punch*, 11 Oct. 'Arry at a Political Picnic.' Old Bluebottle TIPPED ME HIS FLIPPER, and 'oped I'd 'refreshed,' and all that.

2. (common). See FLAPPER.

3. (theatrical). Part of a scene, hinged and painted on both sides, used in trick changes.

**FLIRTATIOUS**, *adj.* (American). — Flirty.

1881. W. D. HOWELLS, *D. Breen's Practice*, ch. i., "Oh, you needn't look after her, Mr. Libby! There's nothing FLIRTATIOUS about Grace," said Mrs. Maynard.

**FLIRT-GILL**, **FLIRTGILLIAN**, OR **GILL-FLIRT**, *subs.* (old). A wanton; a CHOPPING GIRL (*q.v.*);

specifically a strumpet. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1595. SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, ii., 4. Scurvy knave! I am none of his FLIRT-GILLS.

1713. *Guardian*, No. 26. We are invested with a parcel of FLIRT-GILLS, who are not capable of being mothers of brave men.

1729. GAY, *Polly*, ii. 4. While a man is grappling with these GILL-FLIRTS, pardon the expression, Captain, he runs his reason aground.

1822. SCOTT, *Fort. of Nigel*, ch. v. She is a dutiful girl to her god-father, though I sometimes call her a jill-FLIRT.

**FLIRTINA COP-ALL**, *subs. phr.* (common). A wanton, young or old; a MEN'S WOMAN (*q.v.*).

**FLOAT**, *subs.* (theatrical).—The footlights: before the invention of gas they were oil-pans with floating wicks. *Cf.* ARK-FLOATER.

1886. *Saturday Review*, 24 July, p. 108. To an actor the FLOAT is not what it is to a fisherman.

1889. *Answers*, 8 June, p. 24. He slapped me on the back, put me in a hansom, and cried, 'We'll have you behind the FLOAT (footlights) in a week.'

IF THAT'S THE WAY THE STICK FLOATS. See STICK.

**FLOATER**, *subs.* (Stock Exchange). —An Exchequer bill; applied also to other unfunded stock.

1871. *Temple Bar*, XXXI., 320. On the Stock Exchange, where slang abounds, FLOATERS is a term which would puzzle outsiders. FLOATERS are Exchequer bills and their unfunded stock.

2. (common).—A suet dumpling in soup.

3. (political).—A vendible voter,

1883. *Graphic*, 17 Mar., p. 279, col. 3. 'How many voters are there?' asked a candidate in one of these pure-blooded

Yankee townships. 'Four hundred.' 'And how many FLOATERS, *i.e.*, purchasable?' 'Four hundred.'

1888. *New York Herald*, 4 Nov. The Building Materials Exchange people were in line to the number of about 200, with a band, and were followed by a sixteen-horse stage of the 'Long Tom' shape containing a lot of FLOATERS and some fifers and drummers.

4. (Western American).—A candidate representing several counties, and therefore not considered directly responsible to any one of them.

1853. *Texas State Gazette*, 16 July. J. W. Lawrence, Esq., requests us to withdraw his name as a candidate for FLOATER in the district composed of the counties of Fayette, Bastrop, and Travis.

5. (venery).—The *penis*. For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**FLOATING ACADEMY**, *subs. phr.* (old).—The hulks; also CAMPBELL'S ACADEMY (*q.v.*), and FLOATING HELL (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* CAGE.

**FLOATING BATTERIES**, *subs. phr.* (military).—1. Broken bread in tea; also SLINGERS (*q.v.*).

2. (American).—The Confederate bread rations during the Secession.

**FLOATING COFFIN**, *subs. phr.* (nautical).—A rotten ship.

**FLOATING HELL**, or **HELL AFLOAT**, *subs. phr.* (nautical).—A ship commanded by (1) a brutal savage, or (2) a ruthless disciplinarian. *See* also FLOATING ACADEMY.

**FLOCK**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A clergyman's congregation. Also any body of people with a common

haunt or interest: *e.g.*, a family of children, a company of soldiers, a school of girls or boys, 'a cabful of molls,' and such like.

TO FIRE INTO THE WRONG FLOCK, *verb. phr.* (American pioneers').—To blunder. A variant is TO BARK UP THE WRONG TREE.

1858. *New York Herald*, 9 Nov. When Mr. Saulsbury rose and called the Speaker's attention to the alleged blunder in the Secretary's report, his own friends jumped up in great excitement and pulled him down; he soon found out that he had FIRED INTO THE WRONG FLOCK.

**FLOCK OF SHEEP**, *subs. phr.*—1. (gaming). A hand at dominoes set out on the table.

2. (colloquial).—White waves on the sea: WHITE HORSES (*q.v.*).

**FLOG**, *subs.* (American thieves').—1. A whip. A contraction of FLOGGER (*q.v.*). TO FLOG (now recognised), is cited by B. E. (1690), GROSE, and the author of *Bacchus and Venus* as Cant.

TO BE FLOGGED AT THE TUMBLER, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be whipped at the cart's tail. *See* TUMBLER.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*.

TO FLOG THE DEAD HORSE, *verb. phr.* (common).—1. To work up an interest in a bygone subject; to try against heart; to do with no will nor liking for the job. [Bright said that Earl Russell's Reform Bill was a DEAD HORSE (*q.v.*), and every attempt to create enthusiasm in its favour was FLOGGING THE DEAD HORSE.]

2. (nautical).—To work off an advance of wages.

TO FLOG A WILLING HORSE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To urge on one who is already putting forth his best energies.

**FLOGGER**, *subs.* (old).—I. A whip; *cf.*, FLOG. GROSE gives the word as Cant. Fr., *un bouis*.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 173, s.v.

2. (theatrical).—A mop (*i.e.*, a bunch of slips of cloth on a handle) used in the painting room to whisk the charcoal dust from a sketch.

**FLOGGING**, *phl. adj.* (old).—Careful; penurious.

**FLOGGING-COVE**, *subs. phr.* (prison).—I. An official who administers the CAT (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-ing Crew*. FLOGGING COVE, c. the Beadle, or Whipper in Bridewell, or any such place.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. FLOGGING-COVE, the beadle, or whipper, in Bridewell.

2. See FLOGGING CULLY.

**FLOGGING CULLY**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A man addicted, whether from necessity or choice, to flagellation; a WHIPSTER (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-ing Crew*. FLOGGING, c. a Naked Woman's whipping (with rods) an Old (usually) and (sometimes) a young Lecher.

**FLOGGING STAKE**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A whipping post.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-ing Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**FLOGSTER**, *subs.* (old).—One addicted to flogging. Specifically (naval), a nickname applied to

the Duke of Clarence (afterwards William IV).

**FLOOR**, *verb.* (colloquial).—I. To knock down. Hence to vanquish in argument; to make an end of; to defeat; to confound. See FLOORED and DEAD-BEAT.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*. FLOOR the pig, knock down the officer.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 15. That moment the farmer let fly at the drover, which FLOORED him.

1857. G. A. LAWRENCE, *Guy Livingstone*, ch. xxi. 'When I saw him so FLOORED as not to be able to come to time, I knew there had been some hard hitting going on thereabouts, so I kept clear.'

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, p. 10. Then (apostrophising 'Maga') FLOOR me not. *Ibid.*, p. 60, *The Corinthian*, being no novice in these matters, FLOORED two or three in a twinkling.

1835. COLERIDGE, *Table Talk* (published posthumously). The other day I was what you may called FLOORED by a Jew.

1836. C. DICKENS, *Pickwick Papers* p. 425 (Ed. 1857). Even Mr. Bob Sawyer . . . was FLOORED.

1862. MRS. H. WOOD, *The Channings*, ch. v. 'So if the master is directing his suspicions to the seniors, he'll get FLOORED.'

1870. L. OLIPHANT, *Piccadilly*, Pt. V., p. 196. 'Whenever the mammas object to asking her on account of that horrid Lady Wylde, I FLOOR all opposition by saying, 'Oh, Lady Jane Helter will bring her.'

1888. *Sportsman*, 28 Nov. Pope, who was the fresher, started at a terrific pace and drove his man all over the ring, ending by FLOORING him.

TO FLOOR THE ODDS. (betting men's).—Said of a low-priced horse that pulls off the event in face of the betting.

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 16 Nov. The odds were, nevertheless, FLOORED from an unexpected quarter.



1889. *Echo*, 24 Jan. As the odds betted on Miss Jessie II. were easily FLOORED by Marsden.

2. (drunkards'). — To finish; to get outside of. *E.g.*, 'I FLOORED three half-pints and a nip before breakfast.'

1837. *Punch*, 31 Jan. Dear Bill, this stone jug. . . . Is still the same snug, Free-and-easy old hole, Where Macheath met his blowens, and Wylde FLOORED his bowl.

18(?) *Macmillan's Magazine* (quoted in *Century Dict.*) I have a few bottles of old wine left: we may as well FLOOR them.

3. (university). — To pluck; to PLOUGH (*q.v.*).

TO FLOOR A PAPER, LESSON, EXAMINATION, EXAMINER, etc., *verb. phr.* (university). — To answer every question; to master; to prove oneself superior to the occasion.

1852. BRISTED, *Five Years in an English University*, p. 12. Somehow I nearly FLOORED the paper.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*. I've FLOORED my Little Go.

TO FLOOR ONE'S LICKS, *verb. phr.* (common). — To surpass one's self; to CUT-AROUND (*q.v.*)

1844. PUCK, p. 14. Now slowly rising, raised his pewter and FLOORED HIS LICKS.

TO HAVE, HOLD, OR TAKE THE FLOOR. *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To rise to address a public meeting; in Ireland, to stand up to dance; and, in America, 'to be in possession of the House.'

1882. McCABE, *New York*, xxi., p. 342. A member making a bid below or an offer above the one which HAS THE FLOOR.

1888. *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. After a half hour's recess Mr. Glover TOOK THE FLOOR.

1889. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 11 Nov., p. 6, col. 1. The Duke of Rutland, however, who 'TOOK THE FLOOR' non-politically at the end of the evening, was really 'felicitous' in his few remarks.

FLOORED, *ppl. adj.* (colloquial). — 1. Vanquished; brought under; ruined. For synonyms, see DEAD-BEAT and *infra*.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Basketed; bitched; bitched-up; bowled out; broken up; bugged up; busted; caved in; choked-off; cornered; cooked; coopered up; dead-beat; done brown; done for; done on toast; doubled up; flattened-out; fluffed; flummoxed; frummagemmed; gapped; gone through St. Peter's needle; gone under; gravelled; gruelled; hoofed out; in the last of pea-time, or last run of shad; jacked-up; knocked out of time; knocked silly; loosed; mucked-out; petered out; pocketed; potted; put in his little bed; queered in his pitch; rantanned; sat upon; sewn up; shut-up; smashed to smithereens; snashed; snuffed out; spread-eagled; struck up a heap; stumped; tied up; timbered; treed; trumped; up a tree.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Mon linge est lavé* (pop.: = I have thrown up the sponge); *coller sous bande* (= to put in a hole: at billiards, *bande*=cushion); *avoir son affaire* (pop.: = to have got a 'settler'); *aplatir* (*fam.*: = to flatten out); *aplonber* (thieves': = to brazen down; to bluff); *être pris dans la balancine* (pop.: = to be in a fix); *se faire coller* (familiar); *envoyer quelqu'un s'asseoir*, or *s'asseoir sur quelqu'un* (popular).

ITALIAN SYNONYM. — *Traboccare* (= to overturn).



SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Pesado* (doubled-up: from *peso*=weight); *aculado* (from *acular*=to corner); *arrollar* (= to sweep away, as a torrent); *aturrullar* (= to shut up); *cogite*! (= 'I've got you,' or, 'there I have you!')

2. (common). — Drunk; in Shakespearean 'put down': as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, 'Never in your life, I think, unless you see Canary PUT ME DOWN.' (*Twelfth Night*, i., 3). For synonyms, see SCREWED.

3. (painters').—Hung low at an exhibition; in contradistinction to SKYED (*q.v.*), and ON THE LINE (*q.v.*).

**FLOORER**, *subs.* (common). — 1. An AUCTIONEER (*q.v.*); or knock-down blow; *cf.*, DIG, BANG, and WIPE. Hence, sudden or unpleasant news; a decisive argument; an unanswerable retort; a decisive check. Sp., *peso*.

1819. T. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 20. For in these FANCY times, 'tis your hits in the MUNS, And your CHOPPERS and FLOORERS that govern the funds.

1839. SWINTON, *Trial of Wm. Humphreys*, p. 297. It is a downright FLOORER to the Crown.

1856. BRADLEY ('Cuthbert Bede'), *Adventures of Mr. Verdant Green*. The Putney Pet stared . . . The inquiry for his college was, in the language of his profession, a 'regular FLOORER.'

1861. H. C. PENNELL, *Puck on Pegasus*, p. 20. What a FLOORER to my hopes is this performance on the ropes! Miss Marianne *suspensa scalis*—(Would twere sus. per coll instead).

1863. *Cassell's Magazine*, 4 Jan., p. 213. 'Ah, she hasn't told you of the strokes I have had, one arter the other—clean FLOORERS, and left like a log of wood in my bed.'

2. (schools').—A question, or a paper, too hard to master.

3. (bowling alley).—A ball that brings down all the pins.

4. (thieves').—A thief who trips his man, and robs in picking him up; a RAMPER (*q.v.*).

1809. G. ANDREWS, *Dict. of the Slang and Cant Languages*, s.v.

**FLOORING**, *subs.* (pugilists').—Knocking down. Hence, to vanquish in all senses.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. xii. Cross-buttocking . . . being as indispensable an ingredient, as nobbing, FLOORING, etc.

**FLOOR-WALKER**, *subs.* (American). —A shop-walker.

**FLOP**, *subs. and verb.* (American university).—1. A BITE (*q.v.*); a successful dodge.

1856. HALL, *College Words and Customs*. Any 'cute' performance by which a man is sold is a good FLOP, and by a phrase borrowed from the base-ball ground is 'rightly played.' The discomfited individual declares that they 'are all on a side,' and gives up, or 'rolls over,' by giving his opponent 'gowdy.' A man writes cards during examinations to 'fteeze the profs'; said cards are 'gumming cards,' and he FLOPS the examination if he gets a good mark by the means. One usually FLOPS his marks by feigning sickness.

2. (common).—A sudden fall or 'flop' down.

3. (common).—A collapse or breakdown.

4. (For FLAP or FLIP, old).—A light blow.

1862. *Rump Songs*, ii., 3. The good the Rump will do, when they prevail, Is to give us a FLOP with a fox's tail, Which nobody can deny.

*Verb.* (colloquial).—1. To fall, or flap down suddenly. A variant of 'flap.' Fr., *prendre un billet de parterre*.

1742. FIELDING, *Joseph Andrews*, bk. iv. ch. v. She had FLOPPED her hat over her eyes.

1859. DICKENS, *Tale of Two Cities* bk. ii. ch. i. If you must go FLOPPING yourself down.

1870. *Public Opinion*, 12 Feb. But even if they were more numerous and greater than they are, we should hold aloof from the crowd that FLOPS in his presence with love and awe, as the dismal wife of Jerry Cruncher FLOPPED in pious misery.

1883. *The Theatre*, Feb., p. 93. She is able to call in tumbling to the aid of tragedy, and bring the plastic arts to the portrayal of the passions; to FLOP through four such acts as these night after night, and finish with a death-scene warranted correct, to the very last kick and quiver.

1891. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 118. He cursed under his breath each time he rose to follow, and smothered a yell of pain and horror each time he FLOPPED DOWN.

2. (pugilists').—To knock down; to FLOOR (*q.v.*).

1888. *Sporting Life*, 15 Dec. 'E can't FLOP a bloke.

*Adv.* (colloquial).—An onomatopœia expressive of the noise of a sudden and sounding fall. Often used expletively, as SLAP (*q.v.*) is, and the American RIGHT (*q.v.*)

1726. VANBRUGH, *Journey to London*, Act I., Sc. 2. That down came I FLOP o' my peace all along in the channel

1860. *Punch*, v. 38, p. 255. 'Twixt two stools, FLOP, he let me drop, The fall it was my murder.

1881. JAS. PAYN, *Grape from a Thorn*, ch. vi. 'She'll roll down, papa, and come FLOP.'

TO FLOP OVER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To turn heavily; hence (in America), to make a sudden change of sides, association, or allegiance.

**FLOP-UP**, *subs.* (American). — A day's tramp, as opposed to a SOT-DOWN=half a day's travel.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 15 Sept. 'Stranger, did ye lope it?' (come on foot). 'Yes.' 'A mile or a sot down?' 'More'n that. About a dozen FLOP-UPS.'

FLOP-UP-TIME=Bedtime.

[FLOP, too, is something of a vocable of all-work. Thus TO FLOP IN=(venery) to effect intromission; TO FLOP ROUND =to loaf; to dangle; TO FLOP A JUDY=to lay out, or 'SPREAD' (*q.v.*), a girl; TO DO A FLOP=(colloquial) to sit, or to fall, down, and (venery) to lie down to a man; TO FLOP OUT =to leave the water noisily and awkwardly; belly-FLOPPING=belly-bumping, coition; a FLOP in the gills=a smack in the mouth.]

**FLORENCE**, *subs.* (old).—'A wench that has been touzed and ruffled.'

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, and (1785) GROSE, s.v.

**FLOSTER**, *subs.* (common). — A mixed drink: sherry, noyau, peach-leaves, lemon, sugar, ice, and soda-water. Cf., FLESH-AND-BLOOD.

**FLOUCH**. TO FALL (or GO), FLOUCH (or FLOUSH), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To come to pieces; to sag suddenly on the removal of a restraining influence: as a pair of stays.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 13. Old Georgy went FLOUSH, and his backers look'd shy.

**FLOUNCE**, *verb.* (colloquial).—To move with violence, and (generally) in anger. Said of women, for whom such motion is, or rather was, inseparable from a great flourishing of flounces.

**FLOUNDER**, *subs.* (riverside thieves'). —1. A drowned corpse. Cf., DAB, and for synonyms, see STIFF.

2. (Stock Exchange).—To sell, and afterwards re-purchase a stock, or *vice versâ*.

1889. *Echo*, 1 Feb. A third expedient offers itself—namely, to turn round and buy; but this operation goes by the name of 'FLOUNDERING' especially when the speculator loses both ways.

**FLOUNDER-AND-DAB**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—A cab. For synonyms, see GROWLER.

**FLOUR**, *subs.* (American).—Money. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

**FLOURISH**, *subs.* (venery).—Coffion in a hurry; FLYER (*q.v.*); a FAST-FUCK (*q.v.*). Also verbally. For synonyms see GREENS and RIDE.

1796. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue* (3rd ed.), s.v. To enjoy a woman with her clothes on or without going to bed.

*Verb* (colloquial).—To be in luck: e.g., 'I flourish' = 'I am well off'; 'Do you flourish,' or 'Are you flourishing?' = 'Have you got any money?'

**FLOURISHING**, *adj.* (colloquial).—A retort to the enquiry, 'How are you?' The equivalent of 'Pretty well, thank you?'

TO FLOURISH IT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To expose the person.

**FLOWER**, *subs.* (venery).—1. The female *pudendum*. Also FLOWER-POT. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

2. *In pl.* (conventional).—The menstrual flux. Cf., FLAG, sense 3.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Biancure*, the monthly FLOWERS that women have.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*. *Le fourrier de la lune a marqué le logis*, applicable to a woman that hath her FLOWERS.

**FLOWER - FANCIER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A whore-master.

**FLOWERY**, *subs.* (thieves').—Lodging; entertainment; 'square the omee for the FLOWERY' = pay the landlord for the lodging. [*Lingua Franca*.]

**FLOWERY LANGUAGE**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A euphemism for blasphemous and obscene speech.

**FLOWER OF CHIVALRY**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**FLOWING-HOPE**, *subs.* (military).—A forlorn hope.

**FLUB-DUB-AND-GUFF**, *subs. phr.* (American).—Rhetorical embellishment; HIGH-FALUTIN' (*q.v.*).

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, August. Rev. Mr. Selah (to desk editor of the *Daily Roarer*)—"Mr. Seezars, are you going to publish my prayer in full?" Desk Editor—"In full? Well, I guess not." (Changing his tone)—"However, we'll do what we can for you. By swiping out the FLUB-DUB-AND-GUFF, I guess we'll have room to put in the points."

**FLUE**, *subs.* (old). 1. The Recorder of London or any large town. BAMFYLD MOORE - CAREW.

2. (colloquial).—The filth, part fluff, part hair, part dust, which collects under ill-kept beds, and at the junctures of sofas and chairs; BEGGAR'S VELVET (*q.v.*).

1860. DICKENS, *Uncommercial Traveller*. 'Arcadian London.' A power they possess of converting everything into FLUE. Such broken victuals as they take by stealth appear (whatever the nature



of the viands) to generate FLUE. . . .  
*Ibid.* 'Refreshment for Travellers.' Take  
the old established Bull's Head . . .  
with its old-established FLUE under its old  
established four-post bedsteads.

3. (common).—A contraction  
of 'influenza.'

*Verb* (common).—To put in  
pawn.

IN (or UP) THE FLUE, *phr.*  
(common).—Pawned. For syn-  
onyms, see POP.

1821. *Real Life, etc.*, I., p. 366.

1851. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and  
Lond. Poor*, II., p. 250. I've had some-  
times to leave half my stock IN FLUE with a  
deputy for a night's rest.

UP THE FLUE (or SPOUT), *adj.*  
*phr.* (colloquial).—Dead; col-  
lapsed, mentally or physically.

TO BE UP ONE'S FLUE, *verb.*  
*phr.* (colloquial).—To be awk-  
ward for one. THAT'S UP YOUR  
FLUE=That's a 'facer,' or that's  
up against you.

**FLUE-FAKER** (or SCRAPER), *subs.*  
(common).—A chimney-sweep.  
[From FLUE + FAKER (*q.v.*).]  
MINOR CLERGY=young chimney  
sweeps. For synonyms, see  
CLERGYMAN.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, p. 60.  
The 'office' has been given to 'shove' the  
poor FLUE-FAKER against Tom's light drab  
coat.

1859. MATSELL. *Vocabulary, or  
Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

1882. *Punch*. LXXXII., p. 185, col. 2.

**FLUFF** (or FLUFFINGS), *subs.* (rail-  
way clerks').—1. Short change  
given by booking-clerks. The prac-  
tice is known as FLUFFING. *Cf.*,  
MENAVALINGS. *Fr.*, *des fruges*  
(= more or less unlawful profits  
of any sort).

1890. *Star*, 27 Jan. Many porters  
on this line are but getting 15s. per week,  
and with regard to 'tips,' or, as we say,  
'FLUFF'—well, would you not think it  
mean to tell your servant when you en-  
gaged him that such were strictly for-  
bidden by punishment with dismissal, and  
then proclaim to the world that with good  
wages and tips your servant was well paid.

2. (theatrical).—'Lines' half  
learned and imperfectly de-  
livered. Hence, TO DO A FLUFF  
=to forget one's part.

1891. W. ARCHER, *The World*, p.  
28, col. 1, line 34. But even as seen  
through a cloud of FLUFF the burlesque is  
irresistibly amusing.

3. (venery).—The female pub-  
lic hair. For synonyms, see  
FLEECE.

*Verb.* (railway clerks').—1. To  
give short change.

2. (common).—To disconcert,  
to FLOOR (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, FLUFF IN  
THE PAN=a failure.

3. (theatrical).—To forget  
one's part. Also TO DO A  
FLUFF.

**FLUFF IT!** *Intj.* (common).—An  
interjection of disapproval: 'Be  
off!' 'Take it away!'

**FLUFFER**, *subs.* (common).—1. A  
drunkard. *Cf.*, FLUFFINESS.

2. (theatrical).—A player  
'rocky on his lines'; *i.e.*, given  
to forgetting his part.

3. (old).—A term of contempt.

**FLUFFINESS**, *subs.* (common).—  
1. Drunkenness. *Cf.*, FLUFFY  
and FLUFFER.

1886. *Fun*, 4 August, p. 44. A  
sullen-faced, clerical-looking young man,  
charged with FLUFFINESS in a public  
conveyance, said he was sober as a judge  
when taken into custody.



2. (theatrical).—The trick, or habit, of forgetting words.

**FLUFFY**, *adj.* (common and theatrical).—Unsteady; of uncertain memory. *Cf.* FLUFFER (sense 2), and FLUFFINESS (sense 2).

1885. *Referee*, July 26, p. 3, col. 2. In the last act Groves and one or two others were either what actors call FLUFFY in their lines, or else Mr. Cross was guilty of irritating tautology.

**FLUKE**, *subs.* (common). — In billiards, an accidental winning hazard; in all games a result not played for; a CROW (*q.v.*). In yachting an effect of chance; a result in which seamanship has had no part. Hence, a stroke of luck. *Sp., bambarra.*

1857. *Notes and Queries*, 2 S. IV., p. 208, col. 1. In playing at billiards, if a player makes a hazard, etc., which he did not play for, it is often said that he made a crow. . . . Another term is, 'He made a FLOKE (or FLUKE).

1869. *WHYTE MELVILLE, M or N*, p. 100. 'Only lost a pony on the whole meeting,' answered Dick triumphantly. 'And even that was a FLUKE, because Bearwarden's Bacchante filly was left at the post.

1873. *BLACK. Princess of Thule*, ch. xix. 'These conditions are not often fulfilled—it is a happy FLUKE when they are.

1880. *HAWLEY SMART, Social Sinners*, ch. xxxii. 'I suppose, by your asking the question, you have become acquainted with Mr. Solomo's past.' 'That's just it, Mr. Prossiter; by an odd FLUKE I have.

1891. *HUME NISBET, Bail Up!* p. 144. He was now being cured only to be hanged, most kely, unless by some happy FLUKE he got off with imprisonment for life.

*Verb* (common and billiards).—

1. To effect by accident.

1888. *Sportsman*, 20 Dec. Fortune once more assisted Mitchell, who, in trying to make a red loser, FLUKED a cannon, from which he got on the spot, and made forty-three winners in a break of 161.

2.—(schoolboys').—To shirk.

1864. *Eton School Days*, ch. xvi., p. 203. 'By Jove! I think I shall FLUKE doing Verses; I should like to see Paddy drive tandem through College,' said Butler Burke.

TO CUT FLUKES OUT, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To mutiny; to turn sulky and disobedient.

TO TURN FLUKES, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To go to bed; *i.e.*, TO BUNK (*q.v.*), or turn in.

**FLUKY**, or **FLUKEY**, *adj.* (common). —Of the nature of a FLUKE (*q.v.*); *i.e.*, achieved more by good luck than good guidance.

1882. *Standard*, 3 Sept. Bonnor got a FLUKEY three to square leg.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gazette*, 20 March. Now, Grady was a smart young Irishman who had thrashed Stevens twice in days gone by, and had won a somewhat FLUKEY victory over Young Norley.

Hence FLUKINESS=abounding in FLUKES.

1886. *Ill. Sport. and Dram. News*, 20 Feb., p. 579. There is no FLUKINESS about him: he makes his runs because he is an excellent batsman, and takes his wickets because he is an excellent bowler.

**FLUMMADIDDLE**, *subs.* (American).

—1. Nonsense; FLUMMERY (*q.v.*).

2. (nautical).—A sea-dainty.

1884. *G. A. SALA*, in *Ill. London News*, July 19, p. 51, col. 2. I suppose that when the friendly skippers GAM [*q.v.*], they feast on FLUMMADIDDLE, a dish composed, I am given to understand, of stale bread, pork fat, molasses, cinnamon, allspice, and cloves.

**FLUMMERGASTED**, *ppl. adj.* (colloquial).—Astonished; confounded. A variant of FLABBERGASTED (*q.v.*).

1849. *New South Wales: Past and Present*, ch. i., p. 14. This coolness so completely FLUMMERGASTED the fellow, that he kept talking until Mr. Day shot him through the shoulder.

**FLUMMERY**, *subs.* (colloquial). 1. Nonsense; GAMMON (*q.v.*); flattery.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. Oatmeal and water boiled to a jelly; also compliments: neither . . . over-nourishing.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. i. I shall . . . blow off as much of the froth as I can, in order to present the residuum free of FLUMMERY.

1846. THACKERAY, *Yellow Plush Papers*. She swallowed Lord Crabs' FLUMERY just as she would so many musheriums.

1854. WHYTE MELVILLE, *General Bounce*, ch. xii. None of the dubious, half-expressed, sentimental FLUMMERY.

2. (American nautical).—A kind of bread pudding. — NORDHOFF.

3. (old).—Oatmeal and water boiled to a jelly.—GROSE (1785).

**FLUMMOX, FLUMMOCKS, or FLUMMEX**, *verb.* (colloquial).—1. To perplex, dodge, abash, or silence; to victimize; to BEST (*q.v.*); to disappoint. Also CONFLUMMOX. TO FLUMMOX (or CONFLUMMOX) BY THE LIP = TO OUTSLANG (*q.v.*), or talk down; TO FLUMMOX THE COPPERS = to dodge the police; TO FLUMMOX THE OLD DUTCH = to cheat one's wife, etc. For synonyms, see FLABBERGAST.

2. (theatrical).—To confuse, to QUEER (*q.v.*). Cf., CORPSE.

3. (American).—Used in the passive sense = to abandon a purpose; to give in; to die.

*Subs.* (American University).—A bad recitation; a failure.

**FLUMMOXED**, *ppl. adj.* (thieves' and general).—1. Spoilt; ruined; drunk; SENT DOWN (*q.v.*); BOSHED (*q.v.*); defeated; disappointed; silenced; FLOORED (*q.v.*).

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxxiii., p. 283. 'And my pinion is, Sammy, that if your governor don't prove an alleybi, he'll be what the Italians call reg'larly FLUMMOXED, and that's all about it'

1840. WHIBLEY, *Cap and Gown*, p. 170. So many of the men I know Were FLUMMOXED at the last great go.

1861. H. C. PENNELL, *Puck on Pegasus*, p. 17. I felt FLUMMOX'D in a brown (study understood) old fellow.

1864. *Cornhill Magazine*, Dec., p. 742. 'I say, Tom.' 'Yes, mate.' 'If I should have a fit have a bucket of water over me.' Tom was too astonished, or, as he expressed it, CONFLUMMOXED to make any reply.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 July, p. 2, col. 1. I'll give Tom his due, and say of him that for FLUMMOXING a cuss (Custom House Officer) or working the weed, I don't know any one he couldn't give a chalk to and beat 'em.

1890. *Punch*, 30 Aug., p. 97. I'm fair FLUMMOXED, and singing, 'Oh, what a surprise!'

**FLUMMOCKY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Out of place; in bad taste.

1891. F. H. GROOME, *Blackwood's Mag.*, March, p. 319. 'It is a nice solemn dress,' she said, as she lifted a piece to examine it more closely; 'there's nothing FLUMMOCKY about it.'

**FLUMMUT**, *subs.* (vagrants').—A month in prison. See FLUMMOXED. For synonyms, see DOSE.

1889. *Answers*, 20th July, p. 121 col. 2. If you want to get rid of an unfortunate tramp tell him to 'stow his patter,' or you will get him a FLUMMUT.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. 1., p. 232. He [patterer] mostly chalks a signal on or near the door. I give one or two instances. . . . 'FLUMMUT,' sure of a month in quod.

**FLUMP**, *verb.* (colloquial).—To fall, put, or be set, down with violence or a thumping noise. Onomatopoeic. Also to COME DOWN WITH A FLUMP *Cf.*, PLUMP and CACHUNK.

1840. THACKERAY, *Paris Sketch Book*, ch. v. Chairs were FLUMPED down on the floor.

1865. H. KINGSLEY, *The Hillyars and the Burtons*, ch. lxii. Before my mother had been a week in the partly-erected slab-house, the women began to come in, to FLUMP down into a seat and tell her all about it.

**FLUNK**, *subs.* (American colloquial).—I. An idler, a LOAFER (*q.v.*) or LAWRENCE (*q.v.*).

2. (Also FLUNK-OUT).—A failure, especially (at college) in recitations; a backing out of undertakings.

1853. *Songs of Yale*. In moody meditation sunk, Reflecting on my future FLUNK.

1877. *Brunonian*, 24th Feb. A FLUNK is a complete fizzle; and a DEAD FLUNK is where one refuses to get out of his seat.

1888. *Missouri Republican*, 11th Feb. Riddleberger forced the presidential possibilities of the senate to a complete FLUNK.

*Verb* (American).—To retire through fear; to fail (as in a lesson); to cause to fail. *Cf.*, FUNK.

1838. NEAL, *Charcoal Sketches*, IV. Why, little 'un, you must be cracked, if you FLUNK OUT before we begin.

1847. *The Yale Banger*, 22 Oct. My dignity is outraged at beholding those who fizzle and FLUNK in my presence tower above me.

1853. *Amherst Indicator*, p. 253. They know that a man who has FLUNKED, because too much of a genius to get his lesson, is not in a state to appreciate joking.

1871. JOHN HAY, 'Jim Bludso of the Prairie Bell,' in *New York Tribune*, Jan. But he never FLUNKED, and he never lied, I reckon he never know'd how.

**FLUNKY**, *subs.* (nautical).—I. A ship's steward.

2. (American).—An ignorant dabbler in stock; an inexperienced jobber.

1862. *A Week in Wall St.*, p. 90. A broker, who had met with heavy losses, exclaimed: 'I'm in a bear-trap,—this won't do. The dogs will come over me. I shall be mulct in a loss. But I've got time; I'll turn the scale; I'll help the bulls operate for a rise, and draw in the FLUNKIES.

3. (American University).—One that makes a complete failure in a recitation; one who FLUNKS (*q.v.*).

1859. *Yale Lit. Magazine*. I bore him safe through Horace, Saved him from the FLUNKY'S doom.

4. (colloquial).—A man-servant, especially one in livery. Hence, by implication, a parasite or TOADY (*q.v.*). *Fr.*, *un larbin*.

1848. THACKERAY, *Book of Snobs*, ch. v. You who have no toadies; you whom no cringing FLUNKYS or shopmen bow out of doors.

Whence, FLUNKYISM = Blind worship of rank, birth, or riches. *Fr.*, *la larbinerie*.

1857. J. E. RITCHIE, *Night Side of London*, p. 23. Our trading classes, becoming richer and more sunk in FLUNKYISM every day.

**FLURRYMENT**, *subs.* (common).—Agitation; bustle; confusion; nervous excitement. [Pleonastic, from FLURRY.]

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. II. Mafy and all on em was in a monstrous FLURRYMENT.

**FLURRY ONE'S MILK**, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be worried, angry, or upset; TO FRET ONE'S KIDNEYS (*q.v.*); TO TEAR ONE'S SHIRT, or ONE'S HAIR (*q.v.*).



**FLUSH**, *subs.* (gamesters').—A hand of one suit.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—1. With plenty of money; the reverse of **HARD UP** (*q.v.*); **WARM** (*q.v.*)., Also abounding in anything: *e.g.* **FLUSH OF HIS PATTERN**=full of his talk; **FLUSH OF THE LOTION**=liberal with the drink; **FLUSH OF HIS NOTIONS**=prodigal of ideas; **FLUSH OF HER CHARMS**=lavish of her person; and so forth.

1603. **DEKKER**, *Batchelors' Banquet*, ch. viii. Some dames of the company, which are more **FLUSH** in crowns than her good man.

1605. *The Play of Stucley*, l. 538. They know he hath received His marriage money: they perceive he's **FLUSH** And mean to share with him ere all be gone.

1663. **DRYDEN**, *Wild Gallant*, Act II. *Sen.* Since you are so **FLUSH**, sir, you shall give me a locket of diamonds of three hundred pounds.

1690. **B. E.**, *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. **FLUSH** in the pocket *c.* full of money. The cull is **FLUSH** in the fob, the Spark's pocket is well lined with money.

1787. **O'HARA**, *Two Misers*, Act I. What stops many an hopeful project? lack of cash—[*looking archly at him*]. Are you **FLUSH**, Sir?

1785. **GROSE**, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1846. **THACKERAY**, *V. F.*, vol. I, ch. xxviii. The expenses were borne by Jos and Osborne, who was **FLUSH** of money and full of kind attentions to his wife.

1861. **A. TROLLOPE**, *Framley Parsonage*, ch. viii. Allow me to draw on you for that amount at three months. Long before that time I shall be **FLUSH** enough.

1864. *Economist*, 29 Oct. The world was then, if such a *very* colloquial expression could be pardoned, '**FLUSH** of cash,' and it sent in that cash rapidly and at once.

2. (common).—Intoxicated (*i.e.*, full to the brim); also **FLUSHED**. For synonyms, *see* **DRINKS** and **SCREWED**.

3. (colloquial).—Level: *e.g.*, **FLUSH** with the top, with the water, with the road, with the boat's edge, etc.

*Verb.* (common).—1. To whip.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS**.—To bludgeon; to bumbaste; to breech (Cotgrave); to brush; to club; to curry; to dress with an oaken towel; to drub; to drybeat; to dry-bob; to drum; to fib; to flap; to flick; to flop; to jerk; to give one ballast; to hide; to lamm; to larrup; to paste; to punch; to rub down; to swinge; to swish; to switch; to trounce; to thump; to tund (Winchester); to wallop. *See also* **TAN**.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS**.—*Donner l'avoine* (pop.=to give a feed of hay); *allumer* (popular); *bouiser* (thieves': *un bonis* is a whip).

**ITALIAN SYNONYMS**.—*Smangrare*; *cotillare*; *corillare*; *cerire*.

2. (colloquial).—To clean by filling full, and emptying, of water: *e.g.*, to **FLUSH** a sewer; to wash, swill, or sluice away. Also to fill with water: *e.g.*, to **FLUSH** a lock.

1884. **HENLEY** and **STEVENSON**, *Admiral Guinea*, i., 8. Pray for a new heart; **FLUSH OUT** your sins with tears.

3. (shooting).—To start or raise a bird from covert: *e.g.*, to **FLUSH** a snipe, or a covey of partridges. Hence (venery) to **FLUSH A WILD DUCK**=to single out a woman for **GROUSING** (*q.v.*).

**TO COME FLUSH ON ONE**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To come suddenly and unexpectedly (Marvell); to overwhelm (as by a sudden rush of water).



**FLUSHED ON THE HORSE**, *phr.* (prison).—Privately whipped in gaol.

**FLUSH-HIT**, *subs. phr.* (pugilistic).—A clean blow; a hit full on the mark and straight from the shoulder. For synonyms, *see* DIG.

1891. *Lic. Vict. Mirror*, 30 Jan., p. 7, col. 2. Landed a very heavy FLUSH HIT on the mouth.

*Adv.* (colloquial).—Full; straight; RIGHT ON (*q.v.*).

1888. *Sporting Life*, 15 Dec. Both cautious, Wilson with marked frequency leading off, and getting the left FLUSH on the face.

**FLUSTER**, *verb.* (old).—To excite; to confuse, abash, or FLUMMOX (*q.v.*); to upset, or be upset, with drink.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, I, 3. The very elements of this warlike isle,—Have I to-night FLUSTER'D with flowing cups.

1711. *Spectator*, No 87. It is very common for such as are too low in constitution to ogle the idol upon the strength of tea, to FLUSTER themselves with warmer liquors.

1719. DUREF, *Pills*, etc., ii., 261. When I vext proud Celia just come from my glass, She tells me I'm FLUSTERED, and look like an ass.

1731. FIELDING, *Letter Writers*. Act II., Sc. 5. Who hath taken me to the tavern, and, I protest, almost FLUSTER'D me.

**FLUSTERED** (or **FLUSTRATED**), *phl. adj.* (old).—Excited by drink, circumstances, another person's impudence, etc; also mildly drunk. *Cf.*, FLUSTICATED. For synonyms, *see* SCREWED.

1686. *Common. of Women*, Prol. Another to compleat his daily task, FLUSTER'D with claret, seizes on a mask.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLUSTERED, drunk.

1709. STEELE, *Tatler*, No. 3. I . . . therefore take this public occasion to admonish a young Nobleman, whocame FLUSTERED into the box last night.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dict.* (5th ed.) FLUSTERED (*a*) . . . somewhat intoxicated with liquor.

1750. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk. XIV. ch. ix. This latter, though not drunk, began to be somewhat FLUSTERED.

1779. *The Mirror*, No. 57. All of them FLUSTERED, some of them perfectly intoxicated.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**FLUSTICATED**, or **FLUSTRATED**, *phl. adj.* (old and colloquial).—Confused; in a state of heat or excitement. *Cf.*, FLUSTERED.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 493. We were coming down Essex Street one night a little FLUSTRATED.

1766. COLMAN, *Cland. Marriage V.*, in works (1777) i. 271. Your mind is too much FLUSTRATED, and you can neither eat nor drink.

1843. *Maj. Jones' Courtship*, I. Somehow I was so FLUSTRATED that I tuk the rong way.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear, &c.*, p. 98. I sot down, being sorter FLUSTICATED like, thinkin' of that skrape, last time I was there.

**FLUSTRATION**, *subs.* (old and colloquial).—Heat; excitement; bustle; confusion; FLURRY (*q.v.*).

1771. SMOLLET, *Humphrey Clinker*, I., 126. Being I was in such a FLUSTRATION.

1843. *Major Jones' Courtship*, viii. The old woman's been in a monstrous FLUSTRATION 'bout the comet.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 177. My wife is in a delicut way, and the frite might cause a FLUSTRATION.

1848. JONES, *Studies of Travel*, p. 21. The old woman was in such a FLUSTRATION she didn't know her lips from anything else.

1872. MORTIMER COLLINS, *Two Plunges for a Pearl*, vol. II., ch. vii. Then was this pretty little actress whom he admired in a great state of FLUSTRATION.

**FLUTE**, *subs.* (old).—1. The recorder of a corporation.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Tibia*, a FLUTE, a recorder, a pipe.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FLUTE, *c.* The recorder of London or of any other town.

1785. GROSE, *Dist. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1825. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict.* FLUTE—the recorder of any town.

2. (venery).—The *penis*. Also the ONE-HOLED, THE LIVING, OR THE SILENT FLUTE. TO PLAY A TUNE ON THE ONE-HOLED FLUTE=to have connection. *Cf.*, Dryden (*Sixth Juvenal*, line 107). 'And stretch his QUAIL-PIPE till they crack his voice.' For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

1720. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 31. He took her by the middle, And taught her by the FLUTE.

1736. *Cupid*, p. 163. The Flute is good that's made of Wood And is, I own, the neatest; Yet ne'ertheless I must confess, The SILENT FLUTE's the sweetest.

**FLUTTER**, *subs.* (common).—1. An attempt, or SHY (*q.v.*), at anything; a venture in earnest; a spree; a state of expectancy (as in betting). Hence gambling.

1883. *Echo*, 26 Feb. p. 4, col. 2. I have no stable tip, but I fancy the animal named will at any rate afford backers a FLUTTER for their money.

1889. *Licensed Vict. Gazette*, 8 Feb. Of course he told her he only went in for a little FLUTTER occasionally.

1890. *Saturday Review*, 1 Feb., p. 134, col. 1. They find out the addresses of people whom they see at the races—people whom they suspect to be fond of a FLUTTER, and then an invitation is sent to a little *soirée intime*.

1887. HENLEY, *Culture in the Slums*, iii. I likes a merry little FLUTTER, I keeps a Dado on the sly, In fact my form's the blooming Utter.

2. (common).—The act of spinning a coin.

3. (venery).—Connection defloration. TO HAVE HAD A FLUTTER=(1) TO HAVE BEEN THERE (*cf.*, GREENS); and (2) to have lost one's maidenhead.

*Verb.* (common).—1. To spin a coin (for drinks); also to gamble.

2. (common).—To go in for a bout of pleasure.

TO FLUTTER THE RIBBONS, *verb. phr.* (common)—To drive.

1864. *Eton School Days*, chap. 1, p. 11. As I was going to be saying, I used to FLUTTER THE RIBBANDS of the London Croydon and South Coast coach.

[FLUTTER, if not a word of all-work, is a word with plenty to do. Thus, TO HAVE (or DO) A FLUTTER=to have a LOOK IN (*q.v.*), to go on the spree, and (of both sexes) to have carnal connection; TO BE ON THE FLUTTER=to be on the spree, and also (venery) to be ALL THERE (*q.v.*) or ON THE SPOT (*q.v.*); TO FLUTTER A JUDY—both to pursue and to possess a girl; TO FLUTTER A BROWN=to spin a coin; TO FLUTTER (or FRET) ONE'S KIDNEYS=to agitate, to exasperate; TO FLUTTER A SKIRT=to walk the streets; and so forth.]

**FLUX**, *verb.* (old).—1. To cheat; to cozen; to overreach. For synonyms, see STICK.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—To salivate. Grose, (1785).

**FLY**, *subs.* (old).—A familiar; hence, by implication, a parasite or SUCKER (*q.v.*). [In the sixteenth and seventeenth century it was held that familiar spirits, in the guise of flies, lice, fleas, etc., attended witches, who for a price professed to dispose of the power for evil thus imparted.]

1596. LODGE, *Incarnate Devils*. This divel prefers an Ephimerides before a Bible; and his Ptolemey and Hali before Ambrose, golden Chrisostome, or S. Augustine: promise him a familiar, and he will take a FLIE in a box for good payment.

1610. BEN JONSON, *Alchemist* i. You are mistaken, doctor, Why he does ask one but for cups and horses, A rifling FLY, none of your great familiars.

1622. MASSINGER, *Virgin Martyr*, ii., 2. Courtiers have FLIES That buzz all news unto them.

2. (old).—A printer's devil; specifically a boy who lifted the printed sheets from the press. [Now the vibrating frame used for the same purpose.]

1688. R. HOLME, *Academy of Armory*. These boys do in a printing-house commonly black and bedaub themselves, when the workmen do jocosely call them devils, and sometimes spirits, and sometimes FLIES.

3. (trade).—A customer.

4. (common).—The act of spinning a coin. Cf., FLUTTER.

5. (old).—A public wagon: afterwards (colloquial) a four-wheel hackney coach. Fr., *mouche* (fly)=a publicboat on the Seine.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall*, s.v.

6. (common).—A policeman. For synonyms, see BEAK and COPPER.

1857. SNOWDEN, *Magistrates' Assistant*, 3rd ed., p. 446. A policeman; a FLY.

*Adj.* (common).—I. Knowing; ARTFUL (*q.v.*); up to every move; cute. Also FLY TO, A-FLY, FLY TO THE GAME, and FLY TO WHAT'S WHAT. Cf., AWAKE, and, for synonyms, see KNOWING; FLY DOG (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, Cheese it, the coves are FLY=be silent, the people understand our discourse.

1823. W. T. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, Act II., Sc. 2. Jerry. Charles' fiddles?—I'm not FLY, Doctor. Log. Rattles, Jerry, rattles Jerry rattles! you're FLY now, I see.

1838. GLASCOCK, *Land Sharks and Sea Gulls*, II., 4. That's right; I see you're FLY to every fakement.

1850. *Lloyd's Weekly*, 3 Feb. 'Low Lodging Houses of London.' They say the FLIEST is easy to take in sometimes—that's the artfullest; but I could do no good there.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 260. 'We were too FLY to send anybody to market but ourselves.'

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenhoe*, ch. xxxv. [*Chas. Ravenhoe to Shoeblack*]. 'On the cross?' said Charles. 'Ah,' the boy said, 'he goes out *cly-faking* and such. He's a *prig*, and a smart one, too, He's FLY, is Harry.'

1876. MISS BRADDON, *Dead Men's Shoes*, ch. lii. 'Go and fetch the cleverest police officer in Liverpool, and let him wait outside this door till I want him.' 'I'm FLY,' answers the youth, brightening at the prospect of excitement and remuneration. 'Case of 'bezzlement, I suppose, Sir?'

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. ii., p. 125. A certain prisoner, who was what is termed a very FLY man, *i.e.*, a clever, scheming fellow . . . sounded him as to getting tobacco and other matters.

188(?) JENNY HILL *Broadside Ballad*. 'I've cut my wisdom teeth, some at top, some underneath. . . . So you needn't try it on; I'm FLY.'

1890. *Punch*, 30 Aug., p. 9. Briggs, Junior, a lobscurer called me; I wasn't quite FLY to his lay.

1891. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 9 Jan. If you get among a FLY lot, why they'd skin you in less than no time.

2. (common).—Dextrous.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. v. No dummy hunter had forks so FLY.

1839. REYNOLDS, *Pickwick Abroad*, p. 223. We'll knap a fogle with fingers FLY.

3. (venery).—Wanton. FLY-GIRL, -WOMAN, or -DAME = a prostitute.



1888. *San Francisco News Letter*, 4 Feb. 'I'm just gettin' sick'n tired o' the way 't them FLY dames go on, 'n the way t the fellahs hang round 'em 'n dance with 'em 'n so forth.'

*Verb.* (thieves').—I. To toss; to raise; TO FLY THE MAGS = to toss up half-pence (*cf.*, *subs.*, sense 4).

1857. SNOWDEN, *Magistrates' Assistant*, 3rd ed., p. 447. To lift a window. TO FLY A WINDOW.

2. (pugilistic).—To give way: as, china FLIES in the baking.

1865. G. F. BERKELEY, *My Life*, II. 296. Heenan . . . told me his right hand was worth nothing to him, and we have since seen that his left FLIES, or, in other words, becomes puffed, softened, or severely damaged by the force of his own blows.

TO FLY AROUND, *verb. phr.* (American).—To bestir oneself; to make haste. Also TO FLY AROUND AND TEAR ONE'S SHIRT.

1851. HOOPER, *Widow Rugby's Husband*, p. 44. Old 'ooman, FLY AROUND, git somethin' for the Squire and Dick to eat.

TO FLY THE FLAG, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—I. To walk the streets.

2. (vulgar).—To experience the menstrual flux.

See also FLAG.

TO FLY HIGH (or RATHER HIGH).—I. *verb. phr.* (common).—To get, or be drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (colloquial).—To keep the best company, maintain the best appearances, and affect the best aims: *i.e.*, to be a HIGH-FLIER (*q.v.*). Also, to venture for the biggest stakes in the biggest way.

TO FLY LOW, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To make as little of oneself as possible; to SING SMALL (*q.v.*); and (among thieves) to keep out of the way when WANTED (*q.v.*).

TO FLY OFF THE HANDLE, *verb. phr.* (American pioneer).—To lose temper; to fail of a promise; to jilt; to die; also TO SLIP OFF THE HANDLE (*q.v.*); to disappoint in any way. [In pioneer life for an axe to part company with its handle is a serious trial to temper and patience.]

1843-4. HALIBURTON, *The Attaché*. You never see such a crotchical old critter as he is. He FLIES RIGHT OFF THE HANDLE for nothing.

1867. *Home Journal* (New York), 21 July (speaking of a man who had succeeded to a large fortune it says) he WENT OFF THE HANDLE in England rather unexpectedly.

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. 195. If a fair lady loses her temper, or worst of all, if she breaks the tender promise, she is said to FLY OFF THE HANDLE, and the disappointment is as serious to the unlucky lover as a lost axe to many a settler.

1888. *Pittsburg Chronicle*. 'I can't say that I am stuck on Sue Fitzpercys,' remarked Amy. 'She is liable to FLY OFF THE HANDLE.'

TO FLY OUT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To get angry; to scold.

1612. CHAPMAN, *Widow's Tears*, Act II., p. 317 (*Plays*, 1874). For wherefore rage wives at their husbands so when they FLY OUT? for zeal against the sin?

1665-6. PEPYS, *Diary*, 17 Jan. It is to be feared that the Parliament will FLY OUT against him and particular men, the next Session.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 479. He (Socrates) has said, My dear friend, you are beholden to Xantippe, that I bear so well your FLYING OUT in a dispute.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xx. 'And then the Colonel FLIES OUT about his boy, and says that my wife insulted him!'



TO MAKE THE FUR (or FEATHERS) FLY, *verb. phr.* (common).—To attack effectively; to make a disturbance; to quarrel noisily, like two tom cats on the tiles, who are said (in American) to pull fur, or to pull wool.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear*, etc., p. 132. 'Thar, they've got him agin, and now the FUR FLIES.'

1888. *Denver Republican*, 29 Feb. 'Wait until the National Committee assembles on February 22,' said the organizer, 'and you will see the FUR FLY from the Cleveland hide.'

TO TAKE ON THE FLY, *verb. phr.* (vagrants').—To beg in the streets; a specific usage of adverbial sense.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, II., p. 59. The 'first move' in his mendicant career was TAKING THEM ON THE FLY, which means meeting the gentry on their walks, and beseeching or at times menacing them till something is given.

TO FLY A KITE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To raise money by means of accommodation bills; TO RAISE THE WIND (*q.v.*).

1812. From an old Dublin *Jester*. [The story, however, with slight variations, is told of other judges. See *N. and Q.*, 6 S. ix., 326-394.] In a case before the Lord Chancellor of Ireland Mr. Curran, on behalf of the suitor, prayed to be relieved from the payment of some bills for which he had not received consideration, but only lent his name as an accommodation. Mr. Curran, in the course of his pleadings, mentioned the terms KITE and RAISING THE WIND several times, when his lordship requested to know the meaning of the words. 'My lord,' Mr. Curran replied, 'in your country (meaning England) the wind generally raises the kite, but with us, significantly looking at the gentlemen of the bar, THE KITE RAISES THE WIND.'

1848. *Punch*, XIV., p. 226. 'The Model Gentleman.' He never does 'a little discounting,' nor lends his hand to 'FLYING A KITE.'

1849. *Perils of Pearl Street*, p. 82. FLYING THE KITE is rather a perilous adventure.

1880. G. R. SAMS, *Ballads of Babylon* (Little Worries). You have a KITE you cannot FLY, and creditors are pressing.

1891. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 23 Jan. Prince Alexis Soltykoff, who has been FLYING KITES, and getting into trouble thereby, is the only son of Prince Soltykoff, the steward of the Jockey Club.

2. (thieves')—To go out by the window.

3. (lodging-house).—To evacuate from a window.

4. (colloquial).—To attempt; to set one's cap at.

1863. H. KINGSLEY, *Austin Elliot*, ch. xii. 'They say that you FLEW YOUR KITE at that girl of George Cecil's who has married that prig, Lord Mewstone.'

TO FLY THE BLUE PIGEON, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To steal lead from roofs. See BLUE-PIGEON. Fr., *faire la mastar au gras-double*, or *la faire au mastar*.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1789. G. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, Thieves who FLY THE BLUE PIGEON, that is, who steal lead off houses, or cut pipes away . . . cut a hundredweight of lead, which they wrap round their bodies next to the skin. This they call a BIBLE (*q.v.*), and what they steal and put in their pockets, they call a TESTAMENT (*q.v.*).

1887. *Judy*, 27 April, p. 200. A burglar whose particular LAY was FLYING the BLUE PIGEON, *i.e.*, stealing lead.

TO LET FLY, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To hit out. [From cock-fighting.]

1859. *Punch*, vol. XXXVII., p. 54. 'Essence of Parliament.' Monday, 25 July. Lord Lyndhurst LET FLY and caught him what (if pugilistic terms be not out of place when one is alluding to so pacific a personage) may be designated an extremely neat one on the conk.

NOT A FEATHER TO FLY WITH, *adv. phr.* (common).—Penniless and ruined; DEAD-BROKE (*q.v.* for synonyms).

TO BREAK A FLY ON A WHEEL, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). To make a mountain of a molehill. *Cf.*, TO CRACK A NUT WITH A NASMYTH HAMMER = to lavish force or energy.

THE FLY ON THE WHEEL, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—One who fancies himself of mighty importance. [From the fable.]

I DON'T RISE TO THAT FLY, *phr.* (common) = I don't believe you; you won't catch me with such bait as that. [From fly-fishing.]

OFF THE FLY, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—On the quiet; laid up in dock; doing nothing: said of a strumpet retired from business, or a man (or woman) who has given over the pursuit of pleasure.

ON THE FLY, *adv. phr.* (popular).—I. Walking the streets; out for a LARK (*q.v.*); OFF WORK (*q.v.*); out on the SPREE (*q.v.*).

2. (thieves')—In motion: *e.g.*, 'I got in one ON THE FLY' = I landed a blow while I was running.

1868. *Temple Bar*, xxiv., p. 538. I prigged an old woman's poke ON THE FLY.

FLY-BLOW, *subs.* (common).—A bastard; *cf.*, BYE-BLOW. A nonce word.

1875. OUIDA, *Signa*, vol. I., ch. viii., p. 140. No doubt that little FLY-BLOW is his own.

FLY-BLOWN, *adj.* (common).—I. Intoxicated. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1877. *Judy*, 18 May, p. 236. The officer assisted the pastor out, and hinted that he was slightly 'FLY-BLOWN.'

2. (Australian).—Cleaned-out; without a rap; HARD-UP (*q.v.*, for synonyms).

1889. *Star*, 3 Jan. Our diggers go into Castlemaine to get their hair cut, and once there, they get on the spree, and come back FLY-BLOWN.

3. (common).—Used, or done-up; WASHED-OUT (*q.v.*).

4. (venery).—Deflowered. Also STALE (*q.v.*); 'known for a wanton.' Also suspected of disease.

FLY-BY-NIGHT, *subs.* (old).—I. A sedan chair on wheels; a usage of the Regency days.

2. (common).—A defaulting debtor; one who SHOOTS THE MOON (*q.v.*). Also applied to the act.

3. (venery).—A prostitute. *See* BAT, and for synonyms, BARRACK-HACK and TART.

4. (common).—A noctambulist for business or for pleasure: *i.e.*, a burglar or a common SPREESTER (*q.v.*).

5. (obsolete).—A term of opprobrium.

1796. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue* (3rd ed.), s.v. An ancient term of reproach to an old woman, signifying that she was a witch, and alluding to the nocturnal excursions attributed to witches who were supposed to fly abroad to their meetings mounted on brooms.

6. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

FLY-CAGE, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

FLY-CATCHER, *subs.* (venery).—I. The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

2. (common). — An open-mouthed ignoramus; a GAPE-SEED (*q.v.*) — SYDNEY SMITH. Fr., *gobe-mouche*.

**FLYCOP**, *subs.* (American). — A sharp officer; one well broken in to the tricks of trade. [From FLY = knowing + COP, a policeman.]

1859. MATSELL. *Vocabulum or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FLY-DISPERSER SOUP**, *subs. phr.* (common). — Oxtail.

**FLYER**. — 1. See FLIER in all senses.

2. (old). — A shoe. For synonyms, see TROTTER-CASE.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of Terms*, etc., s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1791. *Life and Adventures of Bamfylde Moore Carew*, s.v.

1851. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. II., p. 34. There is another article called a FLYER, that is, a shoe sold without being welled.

3. (Winchester). — A half-volley at football. A MADE-FLYER is when the bound of the ball is gained from a previous kick, by the same side, against canvas or any other obstacle, or is dropped, as in a 'drop-kick.' This is now confused with a 'kick-up.'

**FLY-FLAPPÉD**, *adj.* (obsolete). — Whipped in the stocks, or at the cart's tail. — GROSE.

**FLY-FLAPPER**, *subs.* (old). — A heavy bludgeon.

**FLY-FLAT**, *subs.* (turf). — A would-be connoisseur and authority. [From FLY = knowing + FLAT = a fool.]

**FLYING**. — TO LOOK AS IF THE DEVIL HAD SHIT HIM (OR HER) FLYING (common and proverbial). — Said in derision of one odd-looking, filthy, or deformed.

**FLYING-ANGEL**. — See ANGEL.

**FLYING BRICKLAYERS**, *subs. phr.* (military). — The mounted Royal Engineers.

**FLYING CAMPS**, *subs. phr.* (old). — Couples or gangs of beggars.

1699. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. Beggars plying in FLYING CAMPS. Beggars plying in bodies at funerals.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**FLYING-CAPER**, *subs.* (thieves') — An escape from prison; LEG-BAIL (*q.v.*).

1864. *Daily Paper*, 'Police Report.' The blues are always ready to spot a fellow who has tried on the FLYING-CAPER with them, and given them leg-bail.

**FLYING-CAT**. — See CAT.

**FLYING COUNTRY**, *subs. phr.* (hunting). — A country where the GOING (*q.v.*) is fast and good.

1856. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Kate Coventry*, ch. xii. The heavy-top hounds are an establishment such as, I am given to understand, is not usually kept in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, and other so-called 'FLYING COUNTRIES.'

**FLYING COVE**, *subs. phr.* (American thieves'). — An impostor who gets, or tries to get, money from persons who have been robbed by pretending to give such information as will lead to recovery. Formerly, FLYING-PORTER (GROSE).

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.



**FLYING-DUSTMAN.**—See STIFF-UN.

**FLYING-DUTCHMAN**, *subs.* (common).—The London and Exeter express (G.W.R.). See also FLYING SCOTCHMAN and WILD IRISHMAN. *Cf.*, DEAD-MEAT TRAIN and LARKY SUBALTERN'S COACH.

**FLYING-HORSE** (or **MARE**), *subs.* (wrestling).—The throw by which an opponent is sent over the head. Introduced, says Bee, by Parkins.

1754. FOOTE, *Knights*, Act 1. But we don't wrestle after your fashion; we ha' no tripping; fath and soul! we all go upon close hugs or the FLYING-MARE.

1884. *Referre*, 23 March, p. 1., col. 1. In the third and last bout, Klein brought his man clean over his head—holding him by his own—with a sort of FLYING-MARE, and elicited thunders of applause.

1886. *Fall Mall Gazette*, 5 July, p. 4. On a Mississippi steamer he astonished a rowdy who was shocked at his unmatural objection to whisky, by performing upon him the feat known to British wrestlers as 'the FLYING MARE.'

**FLYING-JIGGER OR GYGGER**, *subs.* (thieves').—A turnpike gate. [JIGGER=a door or gate.]

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FLYING-MAN**, *subs.* (football).—A skirmisher good at taking, and running with, the ball.

1864. *Eton School Days*, ch. 23, p. 255. He possessed good wind, and was a very good 'kick-off,' and he could 'bully' a ball as well as any one. He was a little too heavy for 'FLYING-MAN,' but he made a decent 'sidepost,' and now and then he officiated as 'corner.'

**FLYING-MARE.** See FLYING-HORSE.

**FLYING PASTY**, *subs. phr.* (obsolete).—Excrement wrapped in paper and thrown over a neighbour's wall. [GROSE.]

**FLYING-PORTER.** See FLYING COVE.

**FLYING-STATIONER**, *subs.* (street)—A hawker of street ballads; a PAPERWORKER (*q.v.*), or RUNNING PATERER (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, CROAK. 'Printed for the FLYING-STATIONER' is the *imprimatur* on hundreds of broadsheets from the last century onwards.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. Ballad singers and hawkers of penny histories.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. I, p. 228. That order or species of the pattering genus known as FLYING STATIONERS, from the fact of their being continually on the move while describing the attractions of the papers' they have to sell.

1886. *Athenæum*, 31 July, p. 139. Scores of tracts were issued in the Newgate region, from Giltspur Street to Blowbladder Street, whence numbers of FLYING STATIONERS drew their supplies long before either of the Catnachs were born.

**FLYMY**. *Adj.* (streets).—Knowing; FAST (*q.v.*); roguish; sprightly. From FLY (*q.v.*).

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Vilkin's Good Night*. You FLYMY titlers fond of flam.

**FLY-MY-KITE**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—A light.

**FLYMY-MESS**, TO BE IN A FLYMY-MESS, *verb. phr.* (military).—To be hungry and have nothing to eat. For synonyms, see PECKISH.

**FLY-SLICER**, *subs.* (common).—A cavalry-man: *cf.*, MUDCRUSHER. French lancers are *allumeurs de gaz*, their weapons being likened to a lamplighter's rod.



1785 GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. FLY-SLICERS: Life-guardmen, from their sitting on horseback, under an arch, where they are frequently observed to drive away flies with their swords.

**FLY THE GARTER**, *subs. phr.* (school-boys').—Leap-frog.

1883. G. A. SALA, *Breakfast in Bed*, Essay VIII. p. 187 (1864). He has very probably been playing FLY-THE-GARTER in the gutter instead of waiting his turn at the office.

**FLY-TRAP**, *subs.* (common). — I. The mouth. For synonyms, *see* POTATO-TRAP.

2. (venery).—The female *pu-dendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**FOALED**, *adj.* (hunting).—Thrown from a horse. Fr., *faire parachute*.

**FOB**, or **FUB**, *subs.* (old).—I. A cheat; a trick; a swindle. To COME THE FOB = to impose upon; to swindle: *cf.*, COME OVER.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FOB, c., a cheat trick.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, FOB, s.v.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries of New York*, ch. vii. He come ze FOB on some of ze nobilitie, and zey invite him to go to Amerique.

2. (old: now recognised).—A breeches pocket; a watch pocket.

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, III., i., 107. Had rifed all his pokes and FOBS Of gimcrack whims and gimbobbs.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FOB, c., also a little pocket.

1703. MARVELL, *Poems on Affairs of State*. 'Royal Revolutions.' When plate was in pawn and FOB at an ebb. *Ibid.* 'Last Instructions,' etc. More gold in's FOB, more lace upon his coat.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

3. (common).—A watch chain or ribbon, with buckle and seals, worn hanging from the fob.

*Verb.* (old).—I. To rob; to cheat; to pocket; also TO FOB OFF.

1700. CONGREVE, *Way of the World*, i., 9. There were items of such a treaty in embrio; and if it shou'd come to life poor *Mirabell* wou'd be in some sort unfortunately FOBB'D, i'faith.

1703. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *Stolen Heiress*, III., iv., wks. (1872), i., 358. I shall be FOBBED of my mistress by and by. Why, Frank, why, thou wilt not FOB me, wilt thou?

1731. FIELDING, *Grub Street Opera*, i., 5. While ev'ry one else he is FOBBING, He still may be honest to me.

1789. WOLCOT [P. Pinder], *Rowland for an Oliver*, in wks. (Dublin. 1795), Vol. II., p. 150. To use a cant phrase, we've been finely FOBB'D, Indeed, have very dextrously been robb'd.

1840. HOWITT, *Visits to Remarkable Places*, p. 170. Very pretty sums he has FOBBED now and then.

1842. *Punch*, III., p. 239, col. 2. The world turns its back on you, and neither by cards nor dice can you FOB your brother mortal out of a single guinea.

2. (old).—To deceive; trifle with; disappoint; to put off dishonestly or unfairly.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *2 Henry IV.*, ii., 1. A hundred mark is a long loan for a poor lone woman to bear, and I have borne, and borne, and borne, and have been FUBBED off and FUBBED off.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, IV., 2. I think it is seurvvy, and begin to find myself FOBBED in it.

1610. SHAKESPEARE, *Coriolanus*, I., 1. You must not think to FOB off our disgrace with a tale.

1884. *Fortnightly Review*, XXXVI., p. 75. In nothing are amateur backers of horses FOBBED OFF by professionals with less than the legitimate odds than in backing double and triple events.

1864. *The Tramp Exposed*, p. 7. A miserable, a job lot of humanity as had ever been FOGGED OFF on a defrauded universe.

TO GUT A FOB, *verb. phr.* (old). — To pick pockets. *Cf.* FOB, verbal sense 1. For synonyms, see PRIG.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, 1. Diddling your subjects, and GUTTING their FOBS.

**FOBUS**, *subs.* (old). — An opprobrious epithet.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, II., 1. Ay, you old FORUS.

2. (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**FODDER**, *subs.* (common). — Paper for the closet, BUM · FODDER (*q.v.*).

**FÆTUS**. TO TAP THE FÆTUS, *verb. phr.* (medical). — To procure abortion.

**FOG**, *subs.* (old) — Smoke. — GROSE [1785]; *Modern Flash Dict.* [1823]; MATSELL [1859]. [*Cf.* FOGUS.]

IN A FOG, *subs. phr.* (colloquial). — In a condition of perplexity, doubt, difficulty, or mystification: as, 'I'm quite in a FOG as to what you mean.'

*Verb.* (old). — 1. To smoke.

2. (colloquial). — To mystify; to perplex; to obscure.

1836. W. H. SMITH, *'The Thieves' Chant'*. There's a nook in the boozing-ken, Where many a mug I FOG.

1883. *Punch*, May, p. 210, col. 1. So large a picture, treated so ideally — Not that *that* means stricture — Fogs us to find room for it.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 Sept. We turns what we say into tangle talk so as to FOG them.

**FOGEY**, or **FOGY**, **FOGAY**, or **FOGGI**, *subs.* (old). — An invalid or garrison soldier or sailor. Whence the present colloquial usages: (1) a person advanced in life, and (2) an old-fashioned or eccentric person; generally OLD FOGY. [Derivation doubtful; suggestions are (1) from Su. G. *fogde* and (2) from Eng. *folk*. See *Notes and Queries*, 1 S. vii., 354, 559, 632; viii., 64, 154, 256, 455, 652; 6 S. ix., 10, 195.]

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1812. Letter quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 6 S., ix., 10. My company is now forming into an invalid company. Tell your grandmother we will be like the Castle FOGGIES.

1855. THACKERAY, *The Ballad of Bouillabaisse*. When first I saw ye, *cari luoghi*, I'd scarce a beard upon my face, And now, a grizzled, grim OLD FOGY, I sit and wait for Bouillabaisse.

1864. *Tangled Talk*, p. 104. An OLD FOGY, who particularly hated being 'done.'

1867. NESMITH, 'Reminiscences of Dr. Anthon,' in *The Galaxy*, Sept., p. 611. The adherents of 'progress' mostly regard classics as OLD FOGY, and 'see no use' in the laborious years which youth spend upon them.

1883. JAMES PAYN, *The Canon's Ward*, ch. xv. 'He would have preferred some bookish sneak like Adair, or some OLD FOGY like Mavors.'

1888. *Sporting Life*, 10 Dec. So it is with the sister art of music, for I (myself something of an OLD FOGY in such matters).

So also FOGYISH = old-fashioned; eccentric. FOGYDOM = the state of FOGYISHNESS; and FOGYISM = a characteristic of FOGYDOM.

1877. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, ch. i. They repaired arm-in-arm to their club—the Renaissance, now past its prime, and a little FOGVISH.

1883. *Saturday Review*, 31 March, p. 403, col. 1. Not the least among the pleasures of FOGEVDOM, so ably depicted by Thackeray, is the confidence that it inspires in the hearts of the fairer sex.

**FOGGAGE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Fodder, especially green-meat.

1785. BURNS, *To a Mouse*. And naething now to bigg a new ane o'FOGGAGE green.

**FOGGED**, *pph. adj.* (common).—I. Drunk. *Cf.* FOGGY. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (common).—Perplexed; bewildered; at a loss. [From FOG (*q.v.*), to perplex]. For synonyms, see FLABBERGASTED.

1883. *Illustr. London News*, 6 Jan., p. 6, col. 3. They were all treading on one another's heels, trying to do their best, but hopelessly FOGGED.

1887. *All the Year Round*, 30 July, 30, p. 68. An Australian says that he is bushed just as an Englishman, equally characteristically, declares that he is FOGGED.

**FOGGER**, *subs.* (old).—I. A huckster; a cringing, whining beggar; a pettifogger.

1614. *Terence in English*. I shall be exclaimed upon to be a beggarly FOGGER, greedily hunting after heritage.

2. (old).—A farm servant whose duty is to feed the cattle; *i.e.*, to supply them with FOGGAGE (*q.v.*).

**FOGGY**, *adj.* (common).—I. Drunk; *i.e.*, CLINCHED or HAZY (*q.v.*) For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (colloquial).—Dull; fatwitted; THICK (*q.v.*).

**FOGLE**, *subs.* (thieves').—A silk handkerchief; also generic. [*Cf.*, Ital., *foglia* = a pocket, a purse: Fr., *fouille* = a pocket]. A cotton handkerchief is called a CLOUT.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Bandanna; belcher; billy; clout; conch-clout; fam-cloth; flag; kent-rag; madam; muckender; mucketer (FLORIO); nose-wipe; pen-wiper; rag; sneezer; snottinger or snot-rag; stook; wipe. See BILLY.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Un cachemire* (popular); *un blave* or *blavin* (thieves'; from O.F., *blave* = blue); *une fassolette* (thieves': It., *fazzoletto*); *un chiffon* or *chiffonion* (popular = a rag); *un moufion* (popular); *les mouchettes* (popular = wipes).

GERMAN SYNONYMS. — *Schneitzalingschneiche* (*cf.*, SNOT-RAG); *Flammert* or *Flamme* (also a neckerchief and an apron); *Wisch* (=also clothing of any kind).

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* (1890), p. 74. Jerry's sneezer was touched with some convulsive efforts so that his FOGLE was continually at work.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood* bk. iii., ch. 5. FOGLES and fawnies soon went their way.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. xviii. 'If you don't take FOGLES and tickers——' 'What's the good of talking in that way?' interposed Master Bates: 'he don't know what you mean.' 'If you don't take pocket-handkerchiefs and watches,' said the Dodger

1841. *Tait's Edinburgh Mag.*, viii., p. 220. Fawnies or FOGLES, onions gay, all were the same to me.

1849. *Punch's Almanack*, 'The Swell Mobsman's Almanack.' Their FOGLES fetch next to nothing.



1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, bk. II., ch. i., p. 60. They're just made for hooking a FOGLE [handkerchief] out of a clye.

**FOGLE-HUNTER**, *subs.* (thieves').—A thief whose speciality is FOGLES (*q.v.*) Fr. *un blaviniste* or *un chiffonier*, but for synonyms, see STOOKHAULER.

1827. MAGINN, in *Blackwood's Mag.* . . . the FOGLE HUNTERS doing Their morning fake in the priggling day.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xvi. Who's here so base as would be a FOGLE-HUNTER?

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, p. 44. 'What's the matter now?' said the man, carelessly. 'A young FOGLE-HUNTER,' replied the man who had Oliver in charge.

1843. *Punch*, IV., p. 129. Rich charities the chapel throng. The swell mob they are there, The Bishop's sermon is not long, The FOGLE-HUNTER ware!

**FOGLE-HUNTING** (or **DRAWING**), *subs. phr.* (thieves').—Stealing pocket-handkerchiefs; *i.e.*, 'priggling of wipes.'

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., p. 82. Q. 'Where's Teddy?' A. 'He's out a FOGLE-HUNTING.' Sometimes 'tis said 'drawing FOGLES,' and 'FOGLE-DRAWING.'

**FOGRAM**, or **FOGRUM**, *subs.* (old).—A fussy old man. [*Cf.*, colloquial sense of FOGGY.]

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1793. BUTT, *Poems*. We teach old maxims, neither less nor more, Than Locke, or humble Hooker taught before, Those FOGRUMS, quizzes, treats, and bores, and gigs. Were held in some account with ancient prigs.

1798. O'KEEFE, *Fontainebleau*, II., 3. Never mind, old FOGRUM, run away with me.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

*Adj.* (old).—Fogeyish; stupid.

1771. FOOTE. *Trip to Calais*, i. Father and mother are but a couple of FOGRUM old fools.

Hence FOGRAMITY = (1) FOGYISM (*q.v.*), and (2) the state of FOGYISHNESS.

1796. D'ARBLAY, *Camilla*, ii., 5. Nobody's civil now, you know, it is a FOGRAMITY quite out of date.

**FOGUE**, *adj.* (American thieves')—Fierce; fiery.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FOGUS**, *subs.* (old).—Tobacco. [*Cf.*, FOGUS.] For synonyms, see WEED.

1671. HEAD, *English Rogue*, I., v., p. 49 (1874), s.v. 1724. COLES, *English Dict.*, s.v. 1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*. Tip me a gage of FOGUS.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 133. A hole in the roof of my cell, through which I handed her plenty of FOGUS.

1834. H. AINSWORTH, *Footwood*, bk. III., ch. v. Troll us a stave, my antediluvian file, and in the meantime tip me a gage [pipe] of FOGUS, Jerry.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

**FOILER**, *subs.* (old).—A thief.

1669. *Nicker Nicked*, in *Harl. Misc.* [ed. Park], ii., 108. Given in list of names of thieves.

**FOIN**, *verb.* (obsolete).—To copulate, *i.e.*, to thrust, to POKE (*q.v.*). Also *subs.*

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes. Scaszata*: A thrust, a push, a FOYNE, or the serving to a woman of a man's prick.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, ii., 4. Thou whoreson little tidy Bartholomew boar pig, when wilt thou leave fighting o'days, and FOYNING o'nights, and begin to patch up thine old body for heaven?

**FOIST**, **FOYST**, or **FYST**, *subs.* (old).—I. A cheat; a swindler; a sharper.

1592. JOHN DAY, *Blind Beggar* (Bullen), p. 21. Your nipper, your FOYST, your rogue, your cheat.



1596. BEN JONSON *Every Man in His Humour* iv., 7. Prate again, as you like this, you whoreson FOIST you.

1607. DEKKER, *Jests to Make you Merie* in wks. (Grosart) II., 326. Now to our FOYSTS, *alias* pickpocket, *alias* cut-purse.

1609. DEKKER, *Lanthorne and Candlelight*, in wks. (Grosart) III., 212. A FOYST nor a Nip shall not walke into a Fayre or a Play-house.

1611. MIDDLETON, *Roaring Girl*, O. Pl., vi., 113. This brave fellow is no better than a FOIST. FOIST! what is that? A diver with two fingers; a pick-pocket; all his train study the figging law, that's to say cutting of purses and FOISTING.

2. (old).—A trick; a swindle; an imposture. Also FOYSTER and FOISTER.

1605. BEN JONSON, *Volpone or the Fox*, iii., 9. Put not your FOISTS upon me. I shall scent 'em.

3. (old).—A silent emission of wind through the anus (see quot., sense 2); a CHEESER. See FART and FOUSTY. [Coles has to *fyst*, *vissio*; which in his Latin part he renders to *fizzle*. Also FYSTING CUR; and in Sherwood's English Dictionary, subjoined to Cotgrave, FYSTING CURS, and other offenders of the same class, are fully illustrated.]

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Loffa*, a fize, a FISTE, a close fart.

1605. JONSON, *Eastward Hoe*, pl. iv., 270. Marry, FYST o' your Ruidess. I thought as much.

1662. *Rump Songs*, II., 3. That a reason be enacted (if there be not one), Why a fart hath a voice, and a FYST hath none, Which nobody can deny.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FOYST . . . also a close strong stink, without noise or report.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. FICE or FOYSE.

*Verb.* (old).—I. To trick; to swindle; to pick pockets.

1607. DEKKER, *Jests to Make You Merie*, in wks. (Grosart) II., 332. But now to the manner of the FOYSTING of a pocket, the sharing of the money, and how honest men may avoide them.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). To FOYST, to picke a pocket.

1653. MIDDLETON, *Spanish Gipsy*, ii., 1. I mean fitching, FOISTING, nimming.

2. (old).—To fart. Also to copulate (URQUHART).

1539. DAVID LYNDSAY, *Thrie Estaitis* (Works, Laing, 1879), ii., 109. Ane FISTAND flag.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Loffare*, s.v.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionnaire*, *Vessir*, s.v.

FOISTER, or FOYSTER, *subs.* (old).—A pick-pocket; a cheat.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Barattiere*, a barterer, a trucker, a marter, an exchanger, a briber, a cheater, a false gamester, a cousener, a broker, a fripper, a chaffrer, a cogger, a FOYSTER, a deceiuer, a con-catcher, a bareter, a prowler.

(?). *Mirroure for Magistrates*, p. 483. When facing FOISTERS, fit for Tiburn. fraies, Are food-sick faint.

FOLLOWER, *subs.* (colloquial).—A maid - servant's sweetheart; a beau. For synonyms, see JOMER.

1838. DICKENS, *Nicholas Nickleby*, ch. xv. Five servants kept. No man. No FOLLOWERS.

1860. *Chambers' Journal*, XIII., p. 32. No FOLLOWERS allowed.

1870. *Spectator*, 15 Jan. It is safe, unkind as it may seem, to forbid the presence of a 'FOLLOWER' in the house. A girl is less likely to get into mischief when she is walking with her friend in the street or talking with him over the area gate, than when she receives him alone in the kitchen.

1872. *The Ladies*, 29 June, p. 335. If you take into consideration that 'FOLLOWERS' are in most houses strictly for-

bidden, what wonder is it that girls are now and then caught flirting with the butcher and the baker at the area railings?

**FOLLOW - ME - LADS**, *subs. phr.* (common). — Curls or ribands hanging over the shoulder; *cf.*, *Fr.*, *suivez-moi-jeune-homme* = ribbons flying behind a lady's dress. Also FOLLOWERS.

1872. *Spectator*. 'FOLLOW-ME-LADS' are not in themselves very pretty, though, like any other fashion, they become the Princess, and they are exceedingly costly.

**FOLLOW ON**, *subs. phr. and verb* (cricket). — A team eighty runs behind the other in the first innings is obliged to FOLLOW ON; *i.e.*, to take to the wickets a second time. A run more, and it SAVES THE FOLLOW ON.

1891. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 5 Aug. 'Notts. v. Surrey.' The game, with a possible prospect of the FOLLOW-ON, being saved.

**FOLLOW YOUR NOSE!** *intj. phr.* (streets'). — A retort on asking the way. The full phrase is, 'Follow your nose, and you are sure to go straight.'

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.*, p. 462. He went to the sea syde, and FFOLLOWED HIS NOSE.

1854. *Notes and Queries*, x., p. 66. In what collection of tales published in 1834 shall I find the tale entitled FOLLOW YOUR NOSE?

**FOO-FOO**, *subs.* (American). — A person of no account; an insignificant idiot; a POOF (*q.v.*).

1837. *A Glance at New York* (in Bartlett). Don't know what a FOO-FOO is? Well, as you're a greenhorn, I'll enlighten you. A FOO-FOO, or an outsider, is a chap that can't come the big figure.

**FOOL**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A dish of gooseberries, boiled with sugar and milk. [*Fr.*, *groseilles en foule*.] Also, a GULL (*q.v.*).

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., III., 9. 'Praise of the Dairy Maid.' A lady, I

heard tell, Not far off did dwell, Made her husband a FOOL, and it pleased him quite well.

1774. GOLDSMITH, *Retaliation*. And by the same rule, Magnanimous Goldsmith's a gooseberry FOOL.

**NO FOOL**, *subs. phr.* (American colloquial). — A phrase laudatory, applied to neuter nouns. *Cf.*, NO SLOUCH.

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. 33. I tell you what, Charleston ain't no FOOL of a city.

**TO MAKE A FOOL OF**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To delude. Specifically (venery), to cuckold, or to seduce under promise of marriage.

**TO FOOL ABOUT (or AROUND)**, *verb. phr.* (American). — To dawdle; to trifle with; to be infatuated with; to hang about; to defraud.

1837. *A Glance at New York*. Mose — Now look a-here, Liz, — I go in for Bill Sykes, 'cause he runs wid our machine; but he musn't come FOOLIN' ROUND my gal, or I'll give him fits.

1884. HAWLEY-SMART, *Post to Finish*, ch. xvii. From what I hear, you came to Riddleton, FOOLING after my daughter. Now, I'll have no caterwauling of that sort.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 124. I should think you had too much ed-u-cash to FOOL ABOUT such a going on.

**FOOL-FINDER**, *subs.* (obsolete). — A bum-bailiff. — GROSE.

**FOOLISH**, *adj.* (prostitutes') — Said of a man that pays. 'Is he FLASH (*q.v.*) or FOOLISH = Is he the cully or the other.' — GROSE.

**FOOL-MONGER**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A person, male or female, living by their wits, *e.g.*, a PROMOTER (*q.v.*); a betting-man; a swindler. Also FOOL-CATCHER and FOOL-TRAP (*q.v.*).

**FOOLOMETER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A standard, positive or neuter, whereby to gauge the public taste.

**FOOL'S FATHER**, *subs. phr.* (theatrical).—The pantaloons or OLD 'UN. (*q.v.*)

**FOOL-STICKER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The *penis*. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK. Also FOOL-MAKER.

**FOOL'S WEDDING**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A party of women. For synonyms, see HEN PARTY.

**FOOL-TRAP**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. A FOOL-MONGER (*q.v.*).

2. (venery).—The female *pu-dendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

3. (colloquial).—A high-class harlot.

**FOONT**, *subs.* (thieves')—A sovereign [Probably a corruption of Ger. *Pfund*.] For synonyms, see CANARY.

1879. J. W. HORSLEY, in *Macm. Mag.*, XL., 502. The mob got me up a break (collection), and I got between five or six FOONT (sovereigns).

**FOOT**, *verb.* (common).—1. To acknowledge payment; *e.g.*, TO FOOT A BILL; *cf.*, FOOT-UP.

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 183. If our plan succeeded the landlord was to FOOT the bill, and stand treat.

2. (football and colloquial).—To kick; to HOOFF (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, *Merchant of Venice*, I., 3, You, that did void your rheum upon my beard, And FOOT me, as you spurn a stranger cur.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 223. Both teams were FOOTING their very best.

TO FOOT IT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To walk. For synonyms, see PAD THE HOOFF.

1892. PRICE, *From Arctic Ocean to Yellow Sea*. The discomfort of having to FOOT IT.

TO FOOT-UP, *verb. phr.* (American colloquial).—To sum up the total (of a bill); to TOT UP (*q.v.*). Hence, to pay; to discharge one's obligations; to RECKON UP (*q.v.*); to summarize both merits and defects, and strike a balance. FOOTING-UP = the reckoning, the sum total. *Fr.*, *gamberger*.

1865. SALA, *A Trip to Barbary*. The Arab abhors statistics. He won't be tabulated if he could help it, and were you to go to Algeria, Doctor Colenso, you would find a deeply rooted objection among the people to the reckoning, or FOOTING-UP, as the Americans call it, of anything animate or inanimate.

1871. DE VERE *Americanisms*, p. 310. To FOOT A BILL, by paying the amount at the bottom of the account, is a phrase equally well known abroad and with us.

1882. McCABE, *New York*, XXI., 333. The transactions of 'the Street' FOOT UP an almost fabulous sum daily.

1884 G. A. S[ALA], in *Ill. Lon. News*, 29 March, p. 294, col. 3. They FOOT UP (American English) to an almost alarming amount in thousands of dollars.

TO PUT ONE'S BEST FOOT (OR LEG) FOREMOST, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To use all possible despatch; to exert oneself to the utmost.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *King John*, iv., 2. Nay, but make haste; the BETTER FOOT BEFORE.

TO PUT ONE'S FOOT INTO ANYTHING, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To make a mess of it; to get into a scrape. THE BISHOP (*i.e.*, the Devil) HAS PUT HIS FOOT IN IT (Old English proverb) is said of burned porridge or over-roasted meat.—GROSE. *Fr.*, *faire une gaffe*.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v.



1888. *Daily Telegraph*, 7 May. *Faire une gaffe*, in modern Parisian slang, may be best rendered as to PUT YOUR FOOT IN IT.

TO HAVE ONE FOOT (or LEG) IN THE GRAVE. *verb. phr.* (common).—On one's last legs; MEASURED FOR A FUNERAL SERMON. Also as *adj.*

1825. *English Spy*, i., pp. 199-200. With ONE LEG IN THE GRAVE he'll laugh.

1890. *Globe*, 15 May, p. 5, col. 2. ONE-FOOT-IN-THE-GRAVE paralytic sort of people.

TO PULL FOOT, *verb. phr.* (American).—To make haste. Variants are TO TAKE ONE'S FOOT IN ONE'S HAND, and TO MAKE TRACKS; but for synonyms, see ABSQUATULATE and SKEDADDLE.

1825. NEAL, *Brother Jonathan*, Bk. I., ch. iv., How they PULLED FOOT when they seed us commin.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT. *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. viii. 'Why, PULL FOOT, captain,' promptly replied Paul.

1843-4. HALIBURTON, *Sam Slick in England*. I look'd up; it was another shower, by gosh. I PULLS FOOT for dear life.

TO TAKE MR. FOOT'S HORSE, *verb. phr.* (old).—To walk; to GO BY SHANK'S MARE (*q.v.*) For synonyms, see PAD THE HOOF.

TO KNOW THE LENGTH OF ONE'S FOOT, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be well acquainted with one's character.

1581. LILLY, *Euphues*, etc. But you shall not know the LENGTH OF MY FOOT, untill by your cunning you get commendation.

1614. *Terence in English*. He measures an other MAN'S FOOT by HIS OWNE I.A.S.T. Hee considers an other mans meaning by his owne intent.

FOOTER, *subs.* (Harrow: once common).—I. Short for 'foot-ball.'

2. (University).—A player of football according to Rugby rules.

FOOT-HOT, *adv.* (Old English).—In hot haste; HOT-FOOT (*q.v.*)

1848. *Burton Waggeries*, etc., p. 65. I'm darned if I don't streak it to the Squire's FOOT-HOT.

FOOTING, *subs.* (common).—Money paid on entering upon new duties, or on being received into a workshop or society: as at sea when a comrade first goes aloft. Formerly FOOT-ALE: cf., GARNISH. Fr., *arroser ses galons* = to christen one's uniform.

1777. HOWARD, *State of Prisons in England and Wales*, quoted in J. ASHTON'S *The Fleet*, p. 295. A cruel custom obtains in most of our Gaols, which is that of the prisoners demanding of a new comer garnish, FOOTING, or (as it is called in some London Gaols) chummage.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, I., 48: I must instantly pay down two shillings for my FOOTING.

1788. G. A. STEVENS, *Adv. of a Speculist*, i., 211. I was drove from street to street by women of my own profession, who swore I should not come in their beats until I had paid my FOOTING.

1830. CARLETON, *Collegian's Colleen Bawn*, 94. 'Pay your FOOTING now, Master Kyle Daly, before you go farther,' said one.

1849. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 3 S., ch. iii. 'Waiter, half-a-dozen of iced champagne here, to pay for Mr. Slick's FOOTIN'.'

1891. CLARK RUSSELL, *An Ocean Tragedy*, p. 86: I was going aloft and wished to PAY MY FOOTING.

FOOTLE, *verb.*, and FOOTLING, *adj.* (colloquial).—To dawdle, trifle, potter; dawdling, trifling, pottering; MESSING ABOUT (*q.v.*).

FOOTLICKER, *subs.* (old).—A servant: a lickspittle.

1609. SHAKESPEARE, *The Tempest*, IV., 1. Do that good mischief which may make this island Thine for ever, and I, thy Caliban, For aye thy FOOT-LICKER.



**FOOTLIGHTS.** TO SMELL THE FOOTLIGHTS, *verb. phr.* (theatrical).—To 'acquire a taste for theatricals. [Footlights = the FLOAT (*q.v.*); the row of burners in front of the stage.]

TO SMELL OF THE FOOTLIGHTS. To carry theatrical concerns and phraseology into private life; to TALK SHOP (*q.v.*).

**FOOTMAN'S INN,** *subs. phr.* (old).—A poor lodging; a jail. *Fr.*, *Hôtel de la modestie* = the Poor Man's Arms.

1608. *Penniles Parliament of Threed-bare Poets.* Those that depend on destiny, and not on God, may chance look through a narrow lattice at FOOTMAN'S INN.

1612. ROWLAND, *Knave of Hearts.* Which at the heeles so hants his frighted ghost, That he at last in FOOTMAN'S-INNE must host, Some castle dolorous compos'd of stone, Like (let me see) Newgate is such a one.

**FOOTMAN'S MAUND,** *subs. phr.* (old).—An artificial sore, as from a horse's bite or kick. The FOX'S BITE of schoolboys. Also the SCALDRUM DODGE, or MAUND (*q.v.*). MAUND = a cadger's sale-basket. *Cf.*, MASONS' MAUND.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. An artificial sore made with unslacked lime, soap, and the rust of old iron, on the back of a beggar's hand, as if hurt by the bite or kick of a horse.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**FOOT-RIDING,** *subs.* (cyclists').—Walking and wheeling one's machine instead of riding it.

1887. T. STEVENS, *Round the World on a Bicycle.* Already I realise that there is going to be as much FOOT-RIDING as anything for the first part of my journey.

**FOOT-SCAMP,** *subs.* (old).—A foot-pap.—G. PARKER.

**FOOTSTOOL.** See ANGELS' FOOTSTOOL.

**FOOT-WOBBLER,** *subs.* (old, soldier's').—An infantryman. For synonyms, see MUDCRUSHER.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. ..

**FOOTY,** *adj.* (old).—Contemptible; worthless. *Fr.*, *foutu*.—GROSE.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. v. My eye, Captain, no use to dodge from her; it is only dat FOOTY little King's cutter on de Jamaica station.

**FOOZLE,** *subs.* (common and sporting).—1. A boggle; a miss.

2. (common).—A bore; a fogey; and (in America) a fool; a GREEN 'UN. For synonyms, see BUFFLE, CABBAGE-HEAD, and SAMMY SOFT.

1867. RHODA BROUGHTON, *Cometh up as a Flower*, ch. xxvi. Frumps and FOOZLES in Eaton Square.

*Verb.* (common).—To miss; to boggle; to MUFF (*q.v.*).

1888. *Field*, 25 Feb. Park FOOZLED his second stroke.

FOOZLED (or FOOZLEY), *adj.* (colloquial).—Blurred in appearance and effect; fuzzy; MUFFED (*q.v.*). Often said of badly painted pictures, or parts of pictures.

**FOP-DOODLE,** *subs.* (old).—An insignificant man; a fool.

1689. SHADWELL, *Bury Fair*. Come come, you brace of FOP-DOODLE

**FOP'S ALLEY,** *subs. phr.* (old).—See quot. 1883.

1782. D ARBLAY, *Cecilia*, bk. II., ch iv. Sir Robert Floyer, sauntering down FOP'S ALLEY.

1883. SALA, *Echoes of the Year*, p. 369. FOP'S ALLEY was the gangway running parallel to the footlights, between the last row of the stalls and the first row of the pit in Her Majesty's Theatre, and in its palmiest days it was always graced by the presence of a subaltern of the Guards in full uniform, daintily swinging his bearskin.

**FORAKERS**, *subs.* (Winchester College). — The water-closet. [Formerly spelt *foricus* and probably a corruption of *fori as*, an English plural of the Latin *forica*.] For synonyms, see MRS. JONES.

**FORAMINATE**, *verb* (venery). — To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

**FORCE**, *subs.* (colloquial). — The police; properly a body of men trained for action. For synonyms, see BEAK and COPPER.

1868. BRADDON, *Trail of the Serpent*, bk. IV., ch. vi. 'I should like to . . . bring a child up from the very cradle to the police detective line, to see whether I couldn't make that 'ere child an ornament to the FORCE.'

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 April, p. 2, col. 1. But in all my experience of THE FORCE, I think I never saw a policeman's eyes so expressive of gratitude.

TO FORCE THE VOUCHER, *verb. phr.* (turf). — It is customary for sporting tricksters to advertise selections and enclose vouchers (similar to those sent out by respectable commission agents) for double or treble the current odds. The correspondent is informed that, in consequence of early investments, the extra odds can be laid; a remittance is requested; the VOUCHER IS FORCED; and then the firm 'dries up,' and changes its name and address.

**FORCEMEAT BALL**, *subs. phr.* (old). — Something endured from compulsion: as (1) a rape: (2) going to prison; (3) transporta-

tion; (4) an affiliation order; (5) abstinence (from drink, pleasure, etc.) through impecuniosity.

**FORCEPS**, *subs.* (old). — The hands. [Properly a pair of surgeon's pincers.] — For synonyms, see DADDLE.

**FORE-AND-AFT**, *verb.* (venery). — To copulate. See GREENS and RIDE.

**FORE-AND-AFTER**, *subs. phr.* (American). — 1. See quot.

1840. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 3 S., ch. xi. 'The way she walks her chalks ain't no matter. She is a regular FORE-AND-AFTER.'

2. (venery). — A DOUBLE-BARRELED (*q.v.*) harlot. [As in the song attributed to an eminent living man of letters: "Sing whore, sing whore, Behind and before, Her price is a shilling— She never gets more.")]

**FORE-BUTTOCKS**, *subs.* (old). — The paps. — For synonyms, see DAIRY.

a. 1745. SWIFT, POPE, and ARBUTHNOT, *Misc.* iv., 222. Now her FORE-BUTTOCKS to the navel bare.

**FORECASTER**, *subs.* (venery). The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**FORE-COACH-WHEEL**, *subs.* (common). — A half-crown. For synonyms, see CAROON.

**FORE-COURT**, *subs. phr.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. Also FORE-HATCH, FORE-CASTLE, and FORE-ROOM. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**FOREFOOT**, *subs.* (old). — The hand.

1599. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V.*, II., 1. Give me thy fist; thy FOREFOOT to me give.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*.

**FOREGATHER**, *verb.* (old). — To share the sexual embrace. For synonyms, *see* RIDE.

**FOREHATCH**, *subs.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE. Also FORECASTLE.

**FOREMAN**, *subs.* (old). — I. The *penis*. For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK. [Cf., FOREWOMAN.]

1647. *Ladies' Parliament* (q.v.).

**FOREMAN OF THE JURY**, *subs. phr.* (old). — A babbler; one with the GIFT OF THE GAB (q.v.).

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FOREMAN OF THE JURY, he that engrosses all the talk to himself.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**FORESKIN HUNTER**, *subs. phr.* (venery). — A harlot. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

**FOREST**, *subs.* (venery). — The female pubic hair. For synonyms, *see* FLEECE.

1573-1631. DONNE, *Elegies*, xviii. Yet ere thou be where thou would'st be embayed, Thou must upon another FOREST set, Where many shipwreck and no further get

1720. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 146. Give me the Country lass, That trips it o'er the field, And opes her FOREST to the first.

**FORE-STALL**, *subs.* (thieves'). — In garotting, a look-out in front of the operator, or UGLY-MAN (q.v.); the watch behind is the BACK-STALL (q.v.). [From FORE + STALL (q.v.).]

**FOREWOMAN**, *subs.* (old). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**FORK**, *subs.* (old). I. A pick-pocket. Fr., '*Avoir les mains crochues*' = to be a light-fingered or lime-fingered filcher; every finger of his hand as good as a lime-twig.' — COTGRAVE.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*.

2. (thieves'). — A finger. The FORKS = the fore and middle fingers; also cf., (proverbial) 'Fingers were made before FORKS.'

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Claws; cunt-hooks (Grose); daddles (also the hands); divers; feelers; fives; flappers; grappers; grappling irons; gropers; hooks; nail-bearers; pickers and stealers (Shakspeare); corn-stealers; Ten Commandments; ticklers; pinkies; muck-forks.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Les apôtres* (thieves': = the ten Apostles); *les fourchettes*, or *les fourchettes d'Adam* (popular: = Adam's forks); *le peigne d'allemand* (thieves': RABELAIS).

GERMAN SYNONYMS. — *Esza* (= the finger, especially the first or fore-finger. The names of the others are: *Godel* = the thumb; *Ammo* = the middle-finger; *Kemizo* = the ring-finger; *Seres*, i.e., 'span' = the little finger); *Griffeln* (= also the hand. From *greifen* = to seize).

SPANISH SYNONYMS. — *Mandamiento* (= a commandment: cf., TEN COMMANDMENTS); *tijeras* (= the fore- and middle fingers; MINSHEU (1599) *Dictionarie*, *tijeras* = 'small sheares, seizers, snuffers.').



PORTUGUESE SYNONYM. —  
*Medunhos.*

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 121. My FORKS were equally long, and they never failed me.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*. 'Nix my Dolly.' No dummy hunter had FORKS so fly. *Ibid.* Jack Sheppard (1839), p. 20. I'll give him the edication of a prig—teach him the use of his FORKS be-times.

1841. *Tail's Edinburgh Mag.*, VIII., p. 220. My FORKS were light and fly, and lightly faked away.

1891. *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, 9 Feb. Up they came briskly with smiling mugs, shook hands, then stepped back a pace or two, put up their FORKS, and the spectators were hushed into silence, for they saw that the battle was about to begin.

3. In plural (common). —  
The hands.

4. (old).—A gibbet; in the plural=the gallows. [FORK is often applied to anything resembling a divarication (as of a tree, river, or road), etc.: *Cf.*, sense 2. *Cf.*, Cicero (*de Div.*, i., 26). *Ferens furcam ductus est*: a slave so punished was called *furcifer*.]

5. (old).—A spendthrift.

1725. *New Canting Dict.*, s.v.

6. (tailors' and venery).—The CRUTCH (*q.v.*), NOCKANDRO (*q.v.*), or TWIST (*q.v.*). [Thus, A BIT ON A FORK = the female *pudendum*; a GRIND (*q.v.*).] Fr., *Fourcheure*, that part of the bodie from whence the thighs depart.—COTGRAVE.

*Verb* (old).—1. To steal; specifically to pick a pocket by inserting the middle and fore-finger. Also TO PUT ONE'S FORKS DOWN: Fr., *vol à la fourchette*.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. LET'S FORK HIM, c. Let us pick that man's pocket, the newest and most dextrous way; it is to thrust the fingers straight, stiff, open, and very quick into the pocket, and so closing them hook what can be held between them.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*. Let us FORK him.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xvi. Yet so keen was his appetite for the sport, that the veteran appropriator absolutely burst into tears at not having 'FORKED more.'

1878. C. HINDLEY, *Life and Times of James Catnach*. Frisk the Cly and FORK the Rag, Draw the fogles plummy.

2. (venery).—To open up, or  
SPREAD (*q.v.*).

TO FORK OUT, or OVER (sometimes abbreviated to FORK). *Verb. phr.* (common).—To hand over; to pay; TO SHELL OUT (*q.v.*).

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xxxi. The person FORKS him OUT ten shiners.

1836. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 84. His active mind at once perceived how much might be done in the way of . . . shoving the old and helpless into the wrong buss, and carrying them off . . . till they was rig'larly done over, and FORKED OUT the stumpy.

1837. BARHAM, I. L., *The Execution*. He Pulls up at the door of a gin-shop, and gaily Cries, 'What must I FORK OUT to night, my trump, For the whole first-floor of the Magpie and Stump?'

1840. *Comic Almanack*. 'Tom the Devil,' p. 214. 'That's a nate way of doin' business, sure enough,' was the commentary; 'ounly I can't larn the sinse of going to a private lodging, where, if you order a kidney for breakfast, you're expected to FORK OUT to the butcher.'

1852. H. B. STOWE, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, ch. viii. You've got to FORK OVER fifty dollars, flat down, or this child don't start a peg.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, Bk. III., ch. i. 'Now,' said Fledgeby, 'FORK OUT your balance in hand, and prove by figures how you make it out that it ain't more.'



1867. *Albany Argus*, 5 Sept. Now, sir, you will please FORK OVER that money to me, and pay your bill, or I'll have the law out of you, as sure as you are born.

1887. *Lippincott's Magazine*, Aug., p. 199. Just calculate my percentage of our liabilities, and allow me to FORK OVER.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 9 Sept. The dozen screw-drivers came up C. O. D. and he had to FORK OVER for them.

TO FORK ON, *verb. phr.* (American).—To appropriate. *Cf.*, TO FREEZE ON TO.

TO PITCH THE FORK, *verb. phr.* (popular).—To tell a pitiful tale.

TO EAT VINEGAR WITH A FORK, *verb. phr.* (common).—A person either over-shrewd or over-snappish is said to have EATEN VINEGAR WITH A FORK. *Fr.*, *Avoir mangé de l'oseille*. See NETTLE.

FORKER, *subs.* (nautical).—A dock-yard thief or FENCE (*q.v.*). [From FORK = to steal + ER.]

FORKING, *subs.* (thieves'). — I. Thieving. See FORK.

2. (tailors'). — Hurrying and SCAMPING (*q.v.*).

FORKLESS, *adj.* (thieves'). — Clumsy; unworkmanlike; as without FORKS (*q.v.*).

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 40. I met George Bagrie, and William Paterson, alias old Hag, two very willing, but poor snibs, accompanying a lushy cove, and going to work in a very FORKLESS manner

FORLOPER, *subs.* (South African). — A teamster guide.

FORLORN HOPE, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A gamester's last stake. — GROSE.

FORM, *subs.* (turf.)—I. Condition; training; fitness for a contest.

IN or OUT OF FORM = in or out of condition, *i.e.*, fit or unfit for work. BETTER or TOP FORM, etc. (in comparison). *Cf.*, COLOUR.

1861. WALSH, *The Horse*, ch. vi. If it be supposed that two three-year-olds, carrying the same weight, could run a mile and a-half, and come in abreast, it is said that the FORM of one is equal to that of the other.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *Post to Finish*, ch. xxxv. When fillies, in racing parlance, lose their FORM at three years old, they are apt to never recover it.

1868. WHITE MELVILLE, *White Rose*, ch. xxxiv. That mysterious property racing men call 'FORM.'

2. (colloquial). — Behaviour (with a moral significance: as GOOD FORM, BAD FORM = agreeable to good manners, breeding, principles, taste, etc., or the opposite). This usage, popularised in racing circles, is good literary English, though the word is commonly printed in inverted commas (" "): SHAKESPEARE (*Two Gentlemen of Verona*, 4), says, 'Can no way change you to a milder FORM,' *i.e.*, manner of behaviour.

1871. *Orchestra*, 13 Jan. This squabble at the Globe may most fitly, perhaps, be characterised by the words 'BAD FORM.'

1871. *The Drawing Room Gazette*, Dec. 9, p. 5. It is an open question, whether snubbing be not, like cutting, in the worst possible 'FORM.'

1873. *Belgravia*, Feb. The demeanour and conduct which the 'golden youth' of the period call 'GOOD FORM' was known to their fathers as bad manners.

1881. JAS. PAVN, *Grape from a Thorn*, ch. xvii. It would be considered what they call 'BAD FORM' in my daughter Ella if she were known to be a contributor — for pay — to the columns of a magazine.

1890. *Speaker*, 22 Feb., p. 211, col. 2. Still, after all, we doubt very much whether it be fair, or right, or even prudent — it certainly is not 'GOOD FORM' — to publish to a world of Gallios a lot of irreverent bar-mess and circuit 'good stories,' worked up about living Lord Chancellors, Lord Justices, and other present occupants of the judicial bench.

3. (common).—Habit; GAME (*q.v.*): *e.g.*, 'That's my FORM = That's what I'm in the way of doing'; or 'That's the sort of man I am.'

1834. *Punch*, 11 Oct. 'Arry at a Political Picnic.' Athletics ain't hardly my FORM.

**FORNEY**, *subs.* (thieves').—A ring; a variant of FAWNEY (*q.v.*).

1871. EGAN, *Finish of Tom and Jerry*, p. 243. He sports a diamond FORNEY on his little finger.

**FORNICATING-ENGINE** (-MEMBER; -TOOL), *subs. phr.* (venery).—The penis. For synonyms, see CREAM-STICK and PRICK.

**FORNICATOR**, *subs.* (venery).—1. The penis. For synonyms, see CREAM-STICK and PRICK.

2. In *pl.* (obsolete).—The old-fashioned flap trousers.

**FORNICATOR'S HALL**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**FORT**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.* [Hales & Furnivall, 1867]. 'Come, Wanton Wenches.' When they your FORT beleauger; grant but a touch or a kisse ffor a tast.

**FORTUNE-BITER**, *subs.* (obsolete).—A sharper.

1719. DUREY, *Pills*, etc., ii. 'Hey! for Richmond Ball!' FORTUNE-BITERS, Hags, bum-fighters, Nymphs of the Woods, And stale City goods.

**FORTUNE-TELLER**, *subs.* (old).—A magistrate.

1690. B E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FORTUNE-TELLERS, c. the Judges of Life and Death, so-called by the Canting Crew.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*. FORTUNE-TELLER, or cunning man; a judge who tells every prisoner his fortune, lot, or doom; to go before the FORTUNE-TELLER, lambskin man or conjuror, to be tried at an assize.

1871. EGAN, *Finish of Tom and Jerry*, p. 242. He had been werry cruelly used by the FORTUNE-TELLERS.

**FORTY**. TO TALK FORTY (more commonly NINETEEN) TO THE DOZEN, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To chatter incessantly; to gabble. TO WALK OFF FORTY TO THE DOZEN = to decamp in quick time.

1891. FARJEON, *Mystery of M. Felix*, p. 107. He run agin me, he did, and I ased, 'Who are yer pushing of?' He didn't say nothink, but walked off FORTY TO THE DOZEN.

ROARING FORTIES, *subs. phr.* (nautical).—The Atlantic between the fortieth and fiftieth degrees of latitude; also applied to the same region in southern latitudes.

**FORTY-FACED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—An arrant deceiver: *e.g.*, a FORTY-FACED liar, a FORTY-FACED flirt, and so forth.

**FORTY-FIVE**, *subs.* (American).—A revolver. For synonyms, see MEAT IN THE POT.

**FORTY-FOOT** or **FORTY-GUTS**, *subs.* (common).—A fat, dumpy man, or woman. In contempt.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—'All arse, and no body'; arse-and-corporation; all-belly (Cotgrave); all guts (idem); bacon-belly; barrel-belly; belly-god; bladder-figured; bosse-belly; Bosse of Billingsgate (Florio = a fat woman); chuff (Shakspeare); Christmas beef; double-guts; double-tripe; fat-cock; fat-guts (Shakspeare and Cotgrave); fatico; fattymsu or

fattyma; fubsy; fat Jack of the bonehouse; fat-lips; flanderkin; fustiluggs (Burton); fussock; gorbelly; grampus; gotch-guts; grand-guts (Florio); gulche (Florio); gullyguts; gundigutts; guts; guts - and - stomach; guts - and - garbage; guts - to - sell; hoddy - doddy; humpty-dumpty; hogshhead; hopper-arse; Jack Weight; loppers; lummo; paunch; pod; porpoise; pot-guts; princod; pudding-belly; puff-guts; ribs; 'short-and-thick-like-a-Welshman's-cock'; slush-bucket; sow (a fat woman); spud; squab; studgy-guts; tallow-guts; tallow-merchant; thick-in-the-middle; tripes; tripes and trullibubs; tubs; waist; water-butt; walking ninepin; whopper.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. *Un gros bajaf* (popular); *un bout de cul* (popular); *un bas de plafond*, or *de cul* (popular); *un brasset* (= a tall, stout man); *un berdouillard*.

SPANISH SYNONYM. *Angelón de retablo* (generally applied to a pot-bellied child).

**FORTY-JAWED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Excessively talkative.

**FORTY-LUNGED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Stentorian; given to shouting; LEATHER-LUNGED (*q.v.*).

**FORTY-ROD** or **FORTY-ROD LIGHTNING**, *subs. phr.* (American).—Whiskey; specifically, spirit of so fiery a nature that it is calculated to kill at Forty Rods' distance, *i.e.*, on sight. *Cf.*, ROT-GUT. For synonyms, see DRINKS and OLD MAN'S MILK. *Cf.*, FLORIO (1598), *Catoblepa*, 'a serpent in India so venomous that with his looke he kills a man a mile off.'

1884. M. TWAIN, *Huck Finn*, ch. v., p. 36. He got powerful thirsty and clumb out on to the porch-roof and slid down a stanchion, and traded his new coat for a jug of FORTY-ROD.

**FORTY-TWA**, *subs.* (Scots).—A common jakes, or BOGSHOP (*q.v.*).—in Edinburgh: 'so called from its accommodating that number of persons at once' (*Hotten*). [Long a thing of the past.]

**FORTY WINKS**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A short sleep or nap. See DOG'S SLEEP.

1866. G. ELIOT, *Felix Holt*, ch. xliii. She was prevented by the appearance of old Mr. Transome, who since his walk had been having 'FORTY-WINKS' on the sofa in the library.

1871. EGAN. *Finish to Tom and Jerry*, p. 87. On unconmanly big gentlemen, told out, taking FORTY-WINKS.

[Forty is often used to signify an indefinite number; *cf.*, Shakespeare's usage, 'I could beat forty of them' (*Cor.* iii., 1); 'O that the slave had forty thousand lives' (*Othello* iii., 1); 'forty thousand brothers' (*Hamlet*, v., 1); 'The Humour of Forty Fancies' (*Taming of the Shrew*); and Jonson 'Some forty boxes' (*Silent Woman*).]

**FOSSED**, *ppl. adj.* (American thieves').—Thrown; *cf.*, [foss = a ditch].

**FOSSICK**, *verb* (Australian miners').—To work an abandoned claim, or to wash old dirt; hence to search persistently. [Halliwell: = to take trouble, but *cf.*, fosse, a ditch or excavation.] Also FOS-SICKING = a living got as aforesaid; FOSSICKER = a man that works abandoned claims; FOS-SICKING ABOUT = (American) SHINNING AROUND, or in England FERRETING (*q.v.*).

1870. *Notes and Queries*, 4 S., vi., p. 3.



1878. *Fraser's Mag.*, Oct., p. 449. They are more suited . . . to plodding, FOSSICKING, persevering industry, than for hard work.

1887. SALA, in *Ill. Lond. News*, 12 Mar., p. 282, col. 2. 'To FOSSICK' in the old digging days was to get a living by extracting gold from the refuse wash-dirt which previous diggers had abandoned as worthless.

1890. *Illustrations*, Jan., p. 158. After some 'FOSSICKING' we discover three or four huts within 'cooce,' all diggers, all 'hatters,' and mostly good fellows.

**Fou**, or **Fow**, *adj.* (old English and Scots' colloquial).—Drunk; variants are BITCH-FOU; GREETIN'-FOU; PIPER-FOU; ROARING-FOU; FOU AS BARTY (Burns); PISSING-FOU; and so forth. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED. Also (Scots') = full of food or drink, as in quot. under date 1815.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, III., ii. (quoted in). Then sit ye awhile, and tittle a bit, For we's not very FOU, but we's gayly yet.

1787. BURNS, *Death and Dr. Hornbook*, st. 3. I was na FOU, but just had plenty.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xlv. 'Are ye FOU or fasting?' 'Fasting from all but sin.'

1857. J. E. RITCHIE, *Night Side of London*, p. 166. The time admits of a man getting FOU between the commencement and the close of the entertainment.

**FOUL**, *subs.* (nautical and aquatic).—A running into; a running down.

*Verb.* (idem).—To run against; to run down. Also to COME (or FALL) FOUL OF.

[FOUL, *adj.* and *verb.* is used in two senses: (1)=dirty, as a FOUL word, a FOUL shrew (Dickens), to FOUL the bed, &c.; and (2)=unfair, as a FOUL (*i.e.*, a felon) stroke, a FOUL blow, and so forth.]

1826. CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH, *Accidence for Seamen*, in wks. (Arber), p. 796. Boord and boord, or thwart the hawse, we are FOULE on each other.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* FOUL, hindred or intangled with another ship's ropes, etc.

1754. *Connoisseur*, No. 3. Which sailed very heavy, were often a-ground, and continually ran FOUL on each other.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. xiii. Their coxswain . . . had to pull his left hand hard or they would have FOULED the Oxfordshire corner.

1885. *Illus. London News*, March 28, p. 316, col. 1. In 1849 there were two races in the course of the year; Cambridge won the first, Oxford the second, on a FOUL (the only time the race has been so won).

1889. *Licensed Victuallers' Gaz.*, 18 Jan. Dick was done out of the stakes on an appeal of FOUL.

TO FOUL A PLATE WITH, *verbal phr.* (old, colloquial).—To dine or sup with.—GROSE.

**FOULCHER**, *subs.* (thieves').—A purse.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iii., p. 243. 'A FOULCHER, with flimsies and counters for a score of quid in it.'

**FOUL-MOUTHED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Obscene or blasphemous in speech.

**FOUND IN A PARSLEY-BED**. *See* PARSLEY-BED and GOOSEBERRY-BUSH.

**FOUNTAIN OF LOVE**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**FOUR-AND-NINE** (or **FOUR-AND-NINEPENNY**), *subs. phr.* (old).—A hat. [So-called from the price at which an enterprising Bread Street hatter sold his hats, circa 1844, at which date London was hideous with posters displaying a large black hat and '4s. and 9d.' in white letters.]

1844. *Advertisement Couplet*. When'er to slumber you incline, Take a short nap at FOUR-AND-NINE.



1846. THACKERAY, *Yellow Plush Papers*, p. 152 (ed. 1887). You may, for instance, call a coronet a coronal (an 'ancestral coronal,' p. 74) if you like, as you might call a hat a 'swart sombrero,' a glossy FOUR-AND-NINE, 'a silken helm to storm impermeable, and lightsome as the breezy gossamer;' but in the long run it is safer to call it a hat.

1847. THACKERAY, *Mrs. Perkins's Ball (The Mulligan)*. The Mulligan has withdrawn his custom from the 'infernal FOUR-AND-NINEPENNY scoundthrel,' as he calls him. The latter has not shut up shop in consequence.

1849. VIATOR, *Oxford Guide*. He then did raise his FOUR-AND-NINE, And scratched his shaggy pate.

1867. JAS. GREENWOOD, *Unsent. Journeys*, xxx., 229. Because he wore a FOUR-AND-NINE, and had a pencil stuck behind his ear.

**FOUR-BONES**, *subs.* (thieves'). — The knees.

1857. *Punch*, 31 Jan. 'Dear Bill, This Stone-jug.' For them coves in Guild-hall and that blessed Lord Mayor, Prigs on their four bones should chop whiners I swear.

**FOUR-EYES**, *subs.* (common). — A person in spectacles: 'a chap that can't believe his own eyes.'

**FOUR-HOLED MIDDINGS**, *subs. phr.* (Winchester College). — Ordinary walking shoes; *cf.* BEESWAXERS. Obsolete.

**FOUR KINGS**. THE HISTORY (OR BOOK) OF THE FOUR KINGS. *subs. phr.* (old). — A pack of cards; otherwise, a CHILD'S BEST GUIDE TO THE GALLOWES, OR THE DEVIL'S PICTURE BOOKS. Fr., *Livre des quatre rois*.

**FOUR-LEGGED BURGLAR-ALARM**, *subs. phr.* (common). — A watch dog.

**FOUR-LEGGED FROLIC**, *subs. phr.* (venery). — The act of kind: a reminiscence of the proverb, 'There goes more to a marriage than four bare legs in a bed.' For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

**FOUR-POSTER**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial). — A four-post bedstead.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xlv. 'Vill you allow me to en-quire vy you make up your bed under that ere deal table?' said Sam. 'Cause I was always used to a FOUR-POSTER afore I came here, and I find the legs of the table answer just as well,' replied the cobbler.

**FOUR SEAMS AND A BIT OF SOAP**, *subs. phr.* (tailors'). — A pair of trousers. *See* KICKS.

**FOUR**—(more commonly **THREE**)—**SHEETS IN THE WIND**, *adv. phr.* (nautical). — Drunk; *cf.* HALF SEAS OVER. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

**FOURTEEN HUNDRED**, . . . *phr.* (Stock Exchange). — A warning cry that a stranger is in the 'House.'

1887. ATKIN, *House Scraps*. So, help me Got, Mo, who is he? Instead of replying in a straightforward way, Mo raised his voice as loud as he could, and shouted with might and main, 'FOURTEEN HUNDRED new fives!' A hundred voices repeated the mysterious exclamation.

1890. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, 26 April. The cry of 'FOURTEEN HUNDRED' is said to have had its origin in the fact that for a long while the number of members never exceeded 1,399; and it was customary to hail every new comer as the fourteen hundredth. It has, in its primary sense, long since lost significance, for there are now nearly three thousand members of the close corporation which has its home in Capel Court.

**FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT PERSUASION**, *subs. phr.* (American). — Negroes. [From the number of the clause amending the Constitution at the abolition of slavery.]

1888. *Times Democrat*, 5 Feb. To take the law is one of the greatest privileges in the estimation of the colored folk that the FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT conferred, and, whether offender or defendant, they take a pride in summonses beyond describing.

**FOURTH**, *subs.* (Cambridge University).—A REAR (*q.v.*) or jakes. [Origin uncertain; said to have been first used at St. John's or Trinity, where the closets were situated in the Fourth Court. Whatever its derivation, the term is now the only one in use at Cambridge, and is frequently heard outside the university.] The verbal phrase is TO KEEP A FOURTH (*see* KEEP).

ON HIS FOURTH, *phr.* (common).—Hopelessly drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

**FOURTH ESTATE**, *subs. phr.* (literary).—The body of journalists; the 'Press.' [Literally the Fourth Estate of the realm, the other three being Queen, Lords, and Commons.]

1855. *Notes and Queries*. I S. xi., p. 452.

1857. J. E. RITCHIE, *Night Side of London*, p. 202. Let me say a word about these exceedingly seedy-looking individuals connected with the FOURTH ESTATE.

**FOUR-WHEELER**, *subs.* (common).—A steak.

2. (colloquial).—A four-wheeled cab; a GROWLER (*q.v.*).

1873. BLACK, *Princess of Thule*, ch. 10. Having sent on all their luggage by a respectable old FOUR-WHEELER.

**FOUSTY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Stinking [probably derived from FOIST, sense 3].

**FOUTER**, *verb*, and **FOUTERING**, *subs.* (common).—To meddle, importune, waste time and tongue; the act of meddling, importunity, wasting time and tongue. *E.g.*, 'Don't come FOUTERING here!' [From the French, *foutre*: the sense of which is intensified in a vulgarism of still fuller flavour].

**FOX**, *subs.* (old).—A sword; specifically, the old English broadsword.

[Derivation dubious. Suggestions are: (1) from a maker's name; (2) from the fox sometimes engraved on the blade; (3) from the Latin *falx*.] For synonyms, *see* CHEESE-TOASTER and POKER.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V.*, 4. O signieur Dew, thou dy'st on point of FOX.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii. A fellow that knows nothing but a basket-hilt, and an old FOX in't.

c. 1640. [SHIRLEY], *Captain Underwit*, in Bullen's *Old Plays*, ii., 321. Un. An old FOX blade made at Hounsloe heath.

1667. SHIRLEY, *Love Tricks*, Act II., Sc. 1. They say your swords most commonly are FOXES, and have notable metal in them.

1700. CONGREVE, *Way of the World*, Act V., Sc. 10. Sir, I have an old FOX by my thigh shall hack your instrument of *ram vellum* to shreds, Sir.

1821. SCOTT, *Kenilworth*, ch. iv. 'Come, come, comrade,' said Lambourne, 'here is enough done, and more than enough, put up your FOX, and let us be jogging.'

*Verb* (old).—I. To intoxicate.

FOXED = drunk; TO CATCH A FOX = to be very drunk; while TO FLAY THE FOX (Urquhart) = to vomit, to shed your liquor, *i.e.*, to get rid of the beast.

1611. BARRY, *Ram Alley*, Act IV. They will bib hard; they will be fine sunburnt, Sufficient FOX'D or columber'd now and then.

1633. HEYWOOD, *Eng. Travellers*, IV., v., p. 266 (Mermaid Series). *Rioler*. Worthy Reginald. *Reig*. Will, if he now come off well, FOX you all, Go, call for wine.

c. 1640. [SHIRLEY], *Captain Underwit*, in Bullen's *Old Plays*, ii., 375. Then to bee FOX'D it is no crime, Since thickest and dull braines It makes sublime.

1661. T. MIDDLETON, *Mayor of Quinborough*, V., i. Ah, blind as one that had been FOX'D a sevennight.

1673. SHADWELL, *Epsom Wells*, IV., in wks. (1720), ii., 248. But here's my cup. Come on. Udsooks, I begin to be FOX'D!

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 194. Come, let's trudge it to Kirkham Fair: There's stout liquor enough to FOX me.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Convers.*, Dial. 2. *Lady Sm.* But, Sir John, your ale is terrible strong and heady. . . . *Sir John.* Why, indeed, it is apt to FOX one.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). FOX (v.) . . . also to make a person drunk or fuddled.

1891. *Sporting Times*, 11 April. And so to bed well nigh seven in the morning, and myself as near FOXED as of old.

2. (old).—To cheat; to trick; to rob (colloquial at Eton). For synonyms, see GAMMON.

1631. MAYNE, *City Match*, iii., 1. Fore Jove, the captain FOXED him rarely.

1866. *Notes and Queries*, 3, S. x., 123. Where the tramps . . . out of their gout are FOXED.

3. (common).—To watch closely. Also to FOX ABOUT. Cf., FOX'S SLEEP. For synonyms, see NOSE.

1880. GREENWOOD, *Odd People in Odd Places*, p. 61. 'You keep it going pretty loud here, with a couple of policemen FOXING about just outside.'

4. (colloquial).—To sham.

1880. *One and All*, 6 Nov., p. 296, 'Let us look at these vagabonds; maybe they're only FOXIN'.' The two men who had received such tangible mementos of the whip-handle and the blackthorn lay perfectly still.

5. (American).—To play truant.

6. (booksellers').—To stain; to discolour with damp; said of books and engravings. FOXED = stained or discoloured.

1881. C. M. I[NGLEBY] in *Notes and Queries* (6th S., iv., 96). Tissue paper harbours damp, and in a damp room will assuredly help to FOX the plates which they face.

1885. AUSTIN DOBSON, *At the Sign of the Lyre*, 83. And the Rabelais FOXED and flea'd.

7. (theatrical).—To criticise a 'brother pro's' performance.

8. (common).—To mend a boot by 'capping' it.

TO SET A FOX TO KEEP ONE'S GEESE, *phr.* (common).—To entrust one's money, or one's circumstances, to the care of sharpers. Latin, *Ovem lupo commisit*.

TO MAKE A FOX PAW, *verb. phr.* (common).—To make a mistake or a wrong move; specifically (of women) to be seduced. [A corruption of the Fr. *faux pas*.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*.

FOX'S SLEEP, *subs. phr.* (common).

—A state of feigned yet very vigilant indifference to one's surroundings. [Foxes were supposed to sleep with one eye open.]

1830. SIR J. BARRINGTON, *Personal Sketches*, Vol. III., p. 171 (ed. 1832). Mr. Fitzgerald, he supposed, was in a FOX'S SLEEP, and his bravo in another, who, instead of receding at all, on the contrary squeezed the attorney closer and closer.

FOXY, *adj.* (colloquial).—1. Red-haired; cf., CARROTTY.

1828. G. GRIFFIN, *Collegians*, ch. ii. Dunat O'Leary, the hair-cutter, or Foxy Dunat, as he was named in allusion to his red head.

2. (colloquial).—Cunning; vulpine in character and look. Once literary. Jonson (1605) calls his arch-foist VOLPONE, the second title of his play being '*The Fox*'; and Florio (1598) defines *Volpone* as 'an old fox, an old reinar, an old, crafty, sly, subtle companion, sneaking, lurking, wilie deceiver.'



*d.* 1536. TYNDALE, *Workes*, p. 148. Oh, FOXY Pharisey, that is thy leuen, of which Christ so diligently bad vs beware.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. xlix., p. 429 Whatever his state of health may be his appearance is FOXY, not to say diabolical.

3. (American cobblers'). — Repaired with new toe-caps. *See* FOX, verb, sense 8.

1877. M. TWAIN, *Life on the Mississippi*, ch. lvii., p. 503. It was the scarecrow Dean—in FOXY shoes, down at the heels; socks of odd colours, also 'down.'

4. (booksellers'). — A term applied to prints and books discoloured by damp; *see* FOX, verb, sense 6.

5. (painters': obsolete). — Inclined to reddishness.

*d.* 1792. SIR J. REYNOLDS, *Notes on Dufresnoy*. That (style) of Titian, which may be called the Golden manner, when unskilfully managed, becomes what the painters call FOXY.

6. (common). — Strong-smelling. Said of a red-haired man or woman.

FOY, *subs.* (old). — A cheat; a swindle.

1615. GREENE, *Thieves Falling Out*. You be crossbites, FOVS, and nips.

FOYL-CLOY, *subs.* (old). — A pick-pocket; a rogue—B.E. [1690].

FOYST, *subs.* and *verb.* *See* FOIST.

FOYSTER. *See* FOISTER.

FRAGGLE, *verb.* (Texas). — To rob.

FRAGMENT, *subs.* (Winchester College). — A dinner for six (served in College Hall, after the ordinary dinner), ordered by a Fellow in favour of a particular boy, who was at liberty to invite five others to join him. Obs. A

fragment was supposed to consist of three dishes. — *Winchester Word-book* [1891].

FRAMER, *subs.* (American thieves'). — A shawl.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

FRATER, *subs.* (old). — A beggar working with a false petition.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, s.v. FRATER, a beggar wyth a false paper.

1622. FLETCHER, *Beggar's Bush*, ii., 1. And these what name or title e'er they bear, Jarkman, or Patrico, Cranke, or Clapper-dudgeon, FRATER, or Abramman, I speak to all That stand in fair election for the title Of king of beggars.

1791. *Life of Bamfylde Moore-Carew*. 'Oath of Canting Crew.' Rogue or rascal, FRATER, maunderer, Irish toyle, or other wanderer.

FRAUD, *subs.* (colloquial). — A failure; anything or body disappointing expectation; *e.g.*, an acquaintance, a picture, a book, a play, a picture, a bottle of wine. Actual dishonesty is not necessarily implied.

1882. *Punch*, LXXXII., p. 177, col. 1. A FRAUD, Charlie!

FRAZE. *See* VESSEL.

FREAK, *subs.* (American showmen's). A living curiosity: as the Siamese Twins, the Two-headed Nightingale. [Short for 'freak of nature.']

FREE, *adj.* (Oxford University). — Impudent; self-possessed.

1864. TENNYSON, *Northern Farmer*, (Old Style), line 25.—But parson a coomes an' a goos, an' a says it eäsy an' FREEÄ.

*Verb.* (old). — To steal; *cf.*, ANNEX and CONVEY. For synonyms, *see* PRIG.



1857. SNOWDEN, *Magistrates' Assistant*, 3rd ed., p. 444. To steal a muff. To FREE a cat.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, s.v.

1882. McCABE, *New York*, ch. xxxiv., p. 509. (Given in list of slang terms.)

FREE-FUCKING, *subs.* (venery).—General lewdness. Also the favour gratis. Also fidelity to the other sex at large.

FREE OF FUMBLER'S HALL, *adv. phr.* (venery).—Impotent; unable to do 'the trick.' [FUMBLER'S HALL = female *pudendum*.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* s.v., A saying of one who cannot get his wife with child.

FREE, GRATIS,—FOR NOTHING, *phr.* (common).—A pleonastic vulgarity. Cf., ON THE DEAD.

TO MAKE FREE WITH BOTH ENDS OF THE BUSK, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To take liberties with a woman. Cf., BOTH ENDS OF THE BUSK.

FREE OF THE HOUSE, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Intimate; privileged to come and go at will.

FREE OF THE BUSH, *adj. phr.* (venery).—On terms of extreme intimacy. See BUSH.

[For the rest, the commonest sense of FREE is one of liberality: e.g., FREE OF HIS FOOLISHNESS = full of chaff; FREE-HANDED = lavish in giving; FREE-HEARTED = generously disposed; FREE OF HER FAVOURS = liberal of her person; FREE OF HIS PATTERN = full of talk.]

FREE-AND-EASY, *subs.* (common).—A social gathering where you smoke, drink, and sing; generally held at a public house.

1796. (In BEE'S *Dict. of the Turf*, published 1823, s.v.). Twenty seven years ago the cards of invitation to that (FREE-AND-EASY) at the 'Picad Horse,' in Moorfields, had the notable 'N.B.—Fighting allowed.'

1810. CRABBE, *The Borough*, Letter 10. Clubs. Next is the club, where to their friends in town, Our country neighbours once a-month come down; We term it FREE-AND-EASY, and yet we Find it no easy matter to be free.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. FREE-AND-EASY JOHNS. A society which meets at the Hole in the Wall, Fleet Street, to tippie porter, and sing bawdry.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* (ed. 1890), p. 91. Blew a cloud at a FREE-AND-EASY.

1843. MACAULAY, *Essays: Gladstone on Church and State*. Clubs of all ranks, from those which have lined Pall-Mall and St. James's Street with their palaces, down to the FREE-AND-EASY which meets in the shabby parlour of the village inn.

1869. MRS. H. WOOD, *Roland Yorke*, ch. xii. He tilted himself on to a high stool in the middle of the room, his legs dangling, just as though he had been at a FREE-AND-EASY meeting.

1880. JAS. GREENWOOD, *Odd People in Odd Places*, p. 64. A roaring trade is done, for instance, on a Saturday evening at the 'Medley' in Hoxton, a combination of theatre and music-hall, and serves as a FREE-AND-EASY chiefly for boys and girls.

1891. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, Sept., p. 1068, col. 3. The FREE AND EASY of to-day among us is a species of public-house party, at which much indifferent liquor and tobacco are consumed, songs are sung, and speeches are got rid of.

FREEBOOKER, *subs.* (journalists').—A 'pirate' bookseller or publisher; a play on the word freebooter.

FREE FIGHT, *subs.* (colloquial).—A general mellay.

1877. W. MARK, *Green Past. and Picc.*, ch. xxx. That vehement German has been insisting on the Irish porters bringing up all our luggage at once; and as there has been a sort of FREE FIGHT below he comes fuming upstairs.

**FREE-FISHERY**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONO-SYLLABLE.

**FREEHOLDER**, *subs.* (venery).—1. A prostitute's lover or FANCY-MAN. Cf., FREE-FISHERY, and for synonyms, see JOSEPH.

2. (old).—A man whose wife insists on accompanying him to a public house.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. 1755. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**FREE-LANCE**, *subs.* (common).—An habitual adulteress.

c1889. (Quoted from *Spectator* in 'Slang, Jargon, and Cant'). Sooner than be out of the fashion they will tolerate what should be most galling and shaming to them—the thought that by these they are put down among the FREE-LANCES.

Also said of a journalist attached to no particular paper.

**FREEMAN**, *subs.*, (venery).—A married woman's lover.

**FREEMAN OF BUCKS**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A cuckold. [In allusion to the horn.] GROSE.

TO FREEMAN, or TO MAKE A FREEMAN OF, *verb. phr.* (school-boys').—To spit on the *penis* of a new comer. Also TO FREE-MASON.

**FREEMAN'S QUAY**. TO DRINK, or LUSH, AT FREEMAN'S QUAY, *verb. phr.* (old).—To drink at another's expense. [Freeman's Quay was a celebrated wharf near London Bridge, and the saying arose from the beer that was given to porters, carmen, and others going there on business.]

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**FREEZE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. The act or state of freezing; a frost.

2. (old).—Hard cider. — GROSE.

*Verb.* (American).—To long for intensely; e.g., 'to FREEZE to go back,' said of the home-sick; 'to FREEZE for meat.'

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West* (1887), p. 129. Threats of vengeance on every Redskin they met were loud and deep; and the wild war songs round their nightly camp-fires, and grotesque scalp-dances, borrowed from the Indians, proved to the initiated that they were, one and all, HALF-FROZE for hair.

2. (thieves').—Hence, to appropriate; to steal; 'to stick to.'

3. (old).—To adulterate or BALDERDASH (*q.v.*) wine with FREEZE (*q.v.* sense 2).—GROSE.

TO FREEZE TO (or ON TO), *verb. phr.* (American).—To take a strong fancy to; to cling to; to keep fast hold of; and (of persons) to button-hole or shadow.

1883. *Graphic*, 17 March, p. 287, col. 1. If there was one institution which the Anglo-Indian FROZE to more than another, it was his sit-down supper and—its consequences.

1888. *Daily Inter-Ocean*, 2 March. The competence of a juror was judged by his ability to shake ready-formed opinions and FREEZE ON TO new ones.

TO FREEZE OUT, *verb. phr.* (American).—To compel to withdraw from society by cold and contemptuous treatment; from business by competition or opposition; from the market by depressing prices or rates of exchange.

**FREEZER**, *subs.* (common).—1. A tailless Eton jacket; cf., BUM-PERISHER. For synonyms, see MONKEY-JACKET.

2. (colloquial).—A very cold day. By analogy, a chilling look, address, or retort.

**FRENCH-ELIXIR (CREAM, LACE, or ARTICLE),** *subs. phr.* (common).—Brandy. [The custom of taking of brandy with tea and coffee was originally French.—Whence French Cream. **LACED TEA**=tea dashed with spirits].

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. ix. 'Get out the gallon punch-bowl, and plenty of lemons. I'll stand for the FRENCH ARTICLE by the time I come back, and we'll drink the young Laird's health.'

1821. *Real Life*, i., p. 606. Not forgetting blue ruin and FRENCH LACE.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS.**—Ball-of-fire; bingo; cold tea; cold nantz; red ribbon.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS.**—*Le parfait amour du chiffonnier* (i.e., ragman's happiness = coarse brandy); *le trois-six* (popular: = ROT-GUT); *fil-en-quatre*, *fil-en-trois*, *fil-en-six* (specifically, old brandy, but applied to spirits generally); *le dur* (= a drop of hard: common); *le raide* (popular=a drop of stiff): *le chenique* or *chnic* (popular:); *le rude* (popular: = a drop of rough, i.e., coarse brandy); *l'eau d'affé* (thieves'); *le pissat d'âne* (popular: = donkey's piss; sometimes applied to bad beer, which is likewise called *pissat de vache*); *l'avoine* (military = hay, as who should say 'a nose bag'); *le blanc* (popular=brandy or white wine); *le possédé* (thieves': BIN-GO); *le raspail* (popular:); *le cric* (popular: also *crik*, *crique*, or *cricque* = rough brandy:); *le schnaps* (popular); *le schnick*

(common: = bad brandy); *le camphre* (popular: = camphor; applied to the coarsest spirit); *le sacré-chien* or *sacré-chien tout pur* (common: = the vilest sold); *casse-poitrine* (common: = brandy heightened with pepper; cf., ROT-GUT); *le jaune* (rag-pickers': = a drop of yellow); *tord-boyaux* (popular = twist-gut); *la consolation* (popular = a drop of comfort); *requiqui* (workmen's); *eau de mort* (common: = death-water); *le Tripoli* (rank brandy); *casse-gueule* (= 'kill the-carter'; applied to all kinds of spirits).

**FRENCH FAKE.** *subs. phr.* (nautical).—The fashion of coiling a rope by taking it backwards and forwards in parallel bands, so that it may run easily.

**FRENCH GOUT (or DISEASE, FEVER, etc.),** *subs. phr.* (common).—Sometimes CLAP (*g.v.*), but more generally and correctly syphilis, *Morbus Gallicus*, especially with older writers. For synonyms, see LADIES FEVER. Also THE FRENCHMAN. FRENCH POX = a very bad variety of syphilis. The French themselves always refer to the ailment as the *mal de Naples*, for which see MARSTON (1598) and his 'Naples canker,' and FLORIO (1598) *mal di Napoli*=French pocks. Cf., SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V.*, v., i. News have I that my Nell is dead i' the spital Of malady of France.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Lue*, a plague . . . It is also used for the FRENCH POXE.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*, *Mal de Naples*, the FRENCH POCKS.

1690. B. E. *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. (s.v.).



1740. *Poor Robin*. Some gallants will this month be so penurious that they will not part with a crack'd groat to a poor body, but on their cockatrice or punquetto will bestow half a dozen taffety gowns, who in requital bestows on him the FRENCH FOX.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. He suffered by a blow over the snout with a French faggot-stick; i.e., he lost his nose by the FOX.

**FRENCHIFIED**, *adj.* (old).—Clapped; more generally and accurately poked.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v. FRENCHIFIED, infected with the venereal disease; the mort is FRENCHIFIED=THE WENCH IS INFECTED.

**FRENCH LEAVE**, TO TAKE FRENCH LEAVE. *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—

(1) To decamp without notice; (2) to do anything without permission; (3) to purloin or steal; (4) to run away (as from an enemy). [Derivation obscure; FRENCH, probably traceable to the contempt engendered during the wars with France; the compliment is returned in similar expressions (see Synonyms) + LEAVE = departure or permission to depart. Sense 1 is probably the origin of senses 2, 3, and 4. See Notes and Queries, 1 S. i, 246; 3 S. vi, 17; 5 S. xii, 87; 6 S. v, 347, 496; viii, 514; ix, 133, 213, 279; 7 S. iii, 5, 109, 518.]

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS**.—To retire up (one's fundament); to slope; to smounge; to do a sneak; to take the Frenchman; to vamoose.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS**.—*S'escarpiner* (popular: = to flash one's pumps; *escarpin* = a dancing shoe; *jouer de l'escarpin* = to ply one's pumps, (16th

century); *s'échapper*, *s'esquiver*, *filer*, *disparaître*, *s'élipser*, *se dérober*, *se retirer*, and *s'en aller à l'anglaise* (= to take English leave); *pisser à l'anglaise* (= to do an English piss, i.e., affect a visit to the urinal); *prendre sa permission sous son coude* (popular: literally to take one's leave under one's arm); *ficher* or *foutre le camp*.

**GERMAN SYNONYMS**.—*Französischen Abschied nehmen* (= to take French leave: from GUTZKOW, R. 4, 88, etc, born 1811); *französischer Abschied* (IFFLAND, 1759-1814, 5, 3, 117); *auf gut französisch sich empfehlen* (BLUMAUER, 2, 72, 1758-1798: also GUTZKOW, R., 4, 88); *hinter der Thur urlaub* (= to take leave behind [or outside] the door, i.e., after one has got outside it: quoted by SANDERS, from FISCHART, 1550-1589); *hinter der Thüre Abschied nehmen* (= to say good-bye outside, to take French leave); also, *er beurlaubte sich in aller Stille*, explained as *er stahl sich, schlich sich davon*, and translated 'he took French leave'; also, *sich aus einer Gesellschaft stehlen*.—HILPERT'S Dict., 1845.

**SPANISH SYNONYM**.—*Despedirse á la francesa* (= to take French leave).

1771. SMOLLETT, *Humphrey Clinker*, p. 54. He stole away an Irishman's bride, and took a FRENCH LEAVE of me and his master.

1805. *Newspaper* (quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 5, S. xii., 2 Aug., 79, p. 87, col. 2). On Thursday last Monsieur J. F. Desgranche, one of the French prisoners of war on parole at Chesterfield, took FRENCH LEAVE of that place, in defiance of his parole engagement.

1854. F. E. SMEDLEY, *Harry Coverdale*, ch. lviii. 'I thought I would avoid

all the difficulties . . . by taking FRENCH LEAVE, and setting off in disguise and under a feigned name.

1885 STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, ch. xxii., p. 178 (1886). My only plan was to take FRENCH LEAVE, and slip out when nobody was watching.

1892. *Globe*, 25 Mar., p. 5, col. 1. They finally resolved to go on FRENCH LEAVE to the place.

**FRENCH-** (also **AMERICAN**, **SPANISH**, and **ITALIAN**) **LETTER**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial). — A sheath — of india-rubber, gold beater's skin, gutta-percha — worn by a man during coition to prevent infection or fruition. Usually described in print as SPECIALITIES (*q.v.*) or CIRCULAR PROTECTORS and (in U.S.A.) as SAFES (*q.v.*). See CUNDUM. Fr., *capote anglaise*.

**FRENCH PIGEON**, *subs. phr.* (sportsman's). — A pheasant killed by mistake in the partridge season. Also MOKO and ORIENTAL (*q.v.*).

**FRENCH PIG**, *subs. phr.* (common). — A venereal bubo; a BLUE BOAR (*q.v.*), or WINCHESTER GOOSE (*q.v.*).

**FRENCH PRINTS**, *subs.* (colloquial). — Generic for indecent pictures.

1849-50. THACKERAY, *Pendennis II.*, ch. xxxi. Young de Boots of the Blues recognised you as the man who came to barracks, and did business, one-third in money, one-third in eau-de-Cologne, and one third in FRENCH PRINTS, you confounded, demure, old sinner.

**FRENCH VICE**, *verb. phr.* (venery). — A euphemism for all sexual malpractices; LARKS (*q.v.*). First used (in print) in the case of Crawford v. Crawford and Dilke.

**FRENCHY**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A Frenchman.

**FRESH**, *adj.* (University). — I. Said of an undergraduate in his first term.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantabrigiam*, s.v.

1866. TREVELYAN, *Horace at Athens*. When you and I were FRESH.

2. (common). — Slightly intoxicated; elevated. For synonyms see DRINKS and SCREWED. (Scots' = sober).

1829. MARRYAT, *Frank Mildmay*, ch. xiii. Drinking was not among my vices. I could get FRESH, as we call it, when in good company and excited by wit and mirth; but I never went to the length of being drunk.

3. (Old English and modern American). — Inexperienced, but conceited and presumptuous; hence, forward, impudent.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *King John*, iii., 4. How green you are and FRESH in this old world.

1886. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Moccasins*. 'Has Peggy been too FRESH?' Her sunburnt cheeks flushed.

4. (common). — Fasting; opposed to eating or drinking.

FRESH AS PAINT, AS A ROSE, AS A DAISY, AS A NEW-BORN TURD, etc., *phr.* (common). — Full of health, strength, and activity; FIT (*q.v.*).

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. xix. This is his third day's rest, and the cob will be about as FRESH AS PAINT when I get across him again.

1880. *Punch's Almanack*, p. 12.

FRESH ON THE GRAFT, *adj. phr.* (common). — New to the work. Cf., FRESH BIT.

**FRESH BIT**, *subs. phr.* (venery). — A beginner; also a new mistress. Cf., BIT OF FRESH = the sexual favour: MEAT, or MUTTON, or FISH (*q.v.*), being understood.

**FRESHEN ONE'S WAY**, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To hurry; to quicken one's movements. [The wind FRESHENS when it rises.]

**FRESHEN UP**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). To clean; to vamp; to revive; to smarten.

**FRESHER**, *subs.* (University).—An undergraduate in his first term.

**FRESHERS**. THE FRESHERS, *subs.* (University).—That part of the Cam which lies between the Mill and Byron's Pool. So called because it is frequented by FRESHMEN (*q.v.*).

**FRESHMAN** (or **FRESHER**), *subs.* (University).—A University man during his first year. In Dublin University he is a JUNIOR FRESHMAN during his first year, and a SENIOR FRESHMAN the second year. At Oxford the title lasts for the first term. *Ger., Fuchs.*

1596. NASHE, *Saffron Walden*, in wks. iii., 8. When he was but yet a FRESHMAN in Cambridge.

1611. MIDDLETON, *Roaring Girl*, Act iii., Sc. 3. *S. Alex.* Then he's a graduate. *S. Davy.* Say they trust him not. *S. Alex.* Then is he held a FRESHMAN and a sot.

1767. COLMAN, *Oxonian in Town*, ii., 3. And now I find you as dull and melancholy as a FRESHMAN at college after a jobation.

1841. LEVER, *Charles O'Malley*, ch. xiv. 'This is his third year,' said the Doctor, 'and he is only a FRESHMAN, having lost every examination.'

1891. *Sporting Life*, 20 Mar. The mile, bar accidents, will be a gift to B. C. Allen, of Corpus, who has more than maintained the reputation he gained as a FRESHER.

*Adj.* (University).—Of, or pertaining to, a FRESHMAN, or a first year student.

**FRESHMANSHIP**, *subs.* (old).—Of the quality or state of being a freshman.

1605. JONSON, *Volpone, or the Fox*, iv., 3. Well, wise Sir Pol, since you have practised thus, Upon my FRESHMANSHIP, I'll try your salt-head With what proof it is against a counter-plot.

**FRESHMAN'S BIBLE**, *subs. phr.* (University).—The University Calendar.

**FRESHMAN'S CHURCH**, *subs. phr.* (University).—The Pitt Press at Cambridge. [From its ecclesiastical architecture.]

**FRESHMAN'S LANDMARK**, *subs. phr.* (University).—King's College Chapel, Cambridge. [From the situation.]

**FRESHWATER MARINER** (or **SEAMAN**), *subs. phr.* (old).—A beggar shamming sailor; a TURNPIKE SAILOR (*q.v.*).

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1869), p. 48. These FRESHWATER MARINERS, their ships were drowned in the playne of Salisbury. These kynde . . . counterfet great losses on the sea.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FRESHWATER SEAMEN, that have never been on the Salt, or made any Voyage, meer Land-Men.

**FRESHWATER SOLDIER**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A raw recruit.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes, Biancone*. A goodly, great milke-soppe, a FRESH WATER SOLDIER.

1603. KNOLLES, *Hist. of the Turkes*. The nobility, as FRESHWATER SOLDIERS, which had never seen but some slight skirmishes, made light account of the Turkes.

1696. *Nomenclator*. Bachelier aux armes, nouveau ou jeune souldard. A FRESHWATER SOULDIER: a young souldier: a novice: one that is trayned up to serve in the field.



**FRET**, TO FRET ONE'S GIZZARD, GUTS, GIBLETS, KIDNEYS, CREAM, etc., *verb. phr.* (common).—To get harassed and worried about trifles; TO TEAR ONE'S SHIRT (*q.v.*).

**FRIAR**, *subs.* (printers').—A pale spot in a printed sheet. Fr., *un moine* (=monk).

**FRIE**, *subs.* (old).—A stick. For synonyms, see TOKO.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*, p. 43. A Jacob and FRIE; a ladder and stick.

**FRIBBLE**, *subs.* (old).—A trifler; a contemptible fop. [From the character in Garrick's *Miss in her Teens* (1747)].

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1800. THACKERAY, *Four Georges. George IV.* That FRIBBLE, the leader of such men as Fox and Burke!

**FRIDAY-FACE**, *subs.* (old).—A gloomy, dejected-looking man or woman. [Probably from Friday being ecclesiastically, the banyan day of the week.] Fr., *figure de carême*.

1592. GREENE, *Groatsworth of Wit*, in wks. xii., 120. The Foxe made a FRIDAY-FACE, counterfeiting sorrow.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1889. *Gentleman's Mag.*, June, p. 593. FRIDAY-FACE is a term still occasionally applied to a sour-visaged person; it was formerly in very common use.

**FRIDAY-FACED**, *adj.* (old).—Mortified; melancholy; 'sour-featured' (Scott).

1592. JOHN DAY, *Blind Beggar*, Act iii., Sc. 2, p. 57. Can. No, you FRIDAY-FAC'D frying-pan, it was to save us all from whipping or a worse shame.

1606. *Wily Beguiled* (Hawkins *Eng. Dr.*, iii., 356). Marry, out upon him!

What a FRIDAY-FAC'D slave it is! I think in my conscience his face never keeps holiday.

**FRIEND** (or **LITTLE FRIEND**), *subs.*—The menstrual flux or DOMESTIC AFFLICTIONS (*q.v.*), whose appearance is sometimes announced by the formula 'My little friend has come.' Conventionalisms are queer; poorly; changes (Irish); 'the Captain's at home' (GROSE). See FLAG.

TO GO AND SEE A SICK FRIEND, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To go on the loose. See GREENS.

**FRIEND CHARLES**. See CHARLES HIS FRIEND.

**FRIENDLY LEAD**, *subs. phr.* (thieves').—An entertainment (as a sing-song) got up to assist a companion in TROUBLE (*q.v.*), or to raise money for the wife and children of a 'quodded pal.'

1871. *Daily Telegraph*, 4 Dec. This was the secret business, the tremendous conspiracy, to compass which it was deemed necessary to act with infinitely more caution than the friends of Bill Sikes feel called on to exercise when they distribute tickets for a FRIENDLY LEAD for the benefit of Bill, who is 'just out of his trouble.'

1889. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, 5 Jan. The men frequently club together in a FRIENDLY LEAD to help a brother in distress.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 2 Apr., p. 106, col. 3. My father takes the chair at FRIENDLY LEADS.

**FRIENDS IN NEED**, *subs. phr.* (common).—Lice. For synonyms, see CHATES.

**FRIG**, *verb trans. and refl.* (venery).—To masturbate. Also *subs.* = an act of masturbation. Known sometimes as KEEPING DOWN THE CENSUS. [Latin, *fricare* = to rub.]

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — To bob; to box the Jesuit ['St. Omer's lewdness,' Marston,

'Scourge' (1598)]; to chuff; to chuffer; to claw (Florio); to digitate (of women); to eat (or get) cock-roaches; to bring up (or off) by hand; to fight one's turkey (Texan); to finger or finger-fuck (of women); to friggle (Florio); to fuck one's fist (of men); to fetch mettle (Grose); to handle; to indorse; to jerk, play, pump, toss, or work off; to lark; to milk; to mount a corporal and four; to mess, or pull about; to play with (school-boys'); to rub up; to shag; to tickle one's crack (of women); to dash one's doodle; to touch up; to play paw-paw tricks (Grose); to wriggle (old). For foreign synonyms, see WRIGGLE.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*  
*Fricciare* . . . to FRIG, to wriggle, to tickle.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*,  
*Branler la pique*, To FRIG.

1728. BAILEY, *Dict.*, s.v. FRIG, to rub.

c. 1716-1746. ROBERTSON of Struan.  
*Poems*, 83. So to a House of office . . .  
a School-Boy does repair, To . . . fr—  
bis P— there.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar*  
*Tongue*, s.v.

**FRIGATE**, *subs.* (common). — A woman.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FRIGGAT well rigg'd, a woman well drest and gentile.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. A well-rigg'd FRIGATE, a well-dressed wench.

**FRIGGING**, *subs.* (venery). — 1. The act of masturbation; the 'cynick friction' (Marston, *Scourge*); otherwise SIMPLE INFANTICIDE.

2. (old). — Trifling [GROSE, 1785.]

*Adj. and adv.* (vulgar). — An expletive of intensification. Thus, FRIGGING BAD = 'bloody' bad; a FRIGGING IDIOT = an absolute fool. See also FOUTERING and FUCKING.

**FRIGHTFULLY**, *adv.* (colloquial). — Very. An expletive used as are AWFULLY, BEASTLY, BLOODY, etc. (*q.v.*).

**FRIG-PIG**, *subs.* (old). — A finicking trifler.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**FRIGSTER** (in fem. **FRIGSTRESS**) *subs.* (venery). — A masturbator; an INDORSER (*q.v.*, also = a Sodomite).

**FRILLERY**, *subs.* (common). — Feminine underclothing. For synonyms, see SNOWY. To EXPLORE ONE'S FRILLERY (venery) = to grope one's person.

**FRILLS**, *subs.* (American). — Swagger; conceit; also accomplishments (as music, languages, etc.); and culture; *cf.*, MAN WITH NO FRILLS.

1870. *Sacramento Paper* (quoted in *De Vere*). 'I can't bear his talk, it's all FRILLS.'

1884. CLEMENS ('Mark Twain'), *Adventures of Huckle Finn*, 33. I never see such a son. I bet I'll take some of these FRILLS out of you before I'm done with you.

TO PUT ON ONE'S FRILLS, *verb. phr.* (American). — To exaggerate; TO CHANT THE POKER; to swagger; to put on SIDE (*q.v.*); to SING IT (*q.v.*). Fr., *se gonfler le jabot*, and *faire son lard*.

1890. RUDYARD KIPLING *National Observer*, March, 1890, p. 69. 'The Ont.' It's the commissariat camel PUTTING ON HIS BLOOMING FRILLS.

2. (venery).—To get wanton or PRICK-PROUD (*q.v.*); in a state of MUST (*q.v.*).

TO HAVE BEEN AMONG ONE'S FRILLS, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To have enjoyed the sexual favour. For synonyms, see GREENS.

**FRINT**, *subs.* (old).—A pawnbroker. For synonyms, see UNCLE.

1821. *Real Life in London*, i., p. 566.

**FRISCO**, *subs.* (American).—Short for San Francisco.

1870. BRET HARTE, *Poems*, 'Chiquita.' Busted hisself at White Pine, and blew out his brains down in FRISCO.

1890. *Sporting Life*, 8 Nov. The battle . . . took place in the theatre, Market St., FRISCO.

**FRISK**, *subs.* (old).—I. A frolic; an outing; a LARK (*q.v.*); mischief generally.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, iii., 1. If you have a mind to take a FRISK with us, I have an interest with my lord; I can easily introduce you.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1825. *The English Spy*, vi., p. 162. Dick's a *trump*, and no telegraph—up to every FRISK, and down to every move of the domini, thoroughbred and no want of courage.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xx., p. 171. 'When you and I had the FRISK down in Lincolnshire, Guppy, and drove over to see that house at Castle Wold.'

2. (old).—A dance.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 274. Let's have a neat FRISK or so, And then rub on the law.

1782. COWPER, *Table Talk*, 237. Give him his lass, his fiddle, and his FRISK, Is always happy, reign whoever may

1880. OUIDA, *Moths*, ch. xiv. And her fancy-dress FRISKS, and her musical breakfasts, were great successes.

3. (venery).—The act of copulation. See GREENS and RIDE.

*Verb* (thieves').—I. To search; TO RUN THE RULE OVER (*q.v.*); Especially applied to the search made, after arrest, for evidence of character, antecedents, or identity. Hence, careful examination of any kind.

1781. G. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 179. They FRISK him? That is search him. *Ibid.*, p. 122. Putting a lap-feeder in our sack, that you or your blown had prig'd yourselves though we should stand the FRISK for it.

1828. JON. BEE, *Pict. of London*, p. 69. The arms are seized from behind by one, whilst the other FRISKS the pockets of their contents.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries, etc. of New York*, ch. vii. Vel sare, the offisare 'ave FRISK me; he 'ave not found ze skin or ze dummy, eh?

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*, p. 21. 'The knuck was copped to rights, a skin full of honey was found in his kick's poke by the copper when he FRISKED him'; [*i.e.*] the pick-pocket was arrested, and when searched by the officer a purse was found in his pantaloons pocket full of money.

2. (thieves').—To pick pockets; to rob. TO FRISK A CLY=to empty a pocket.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries, etc. of New York*, ch. iv. You're as good a knuck as ever FRISKED a swell.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 June, p. 7, col. 3. The ragged little wretches who prowled in gangs about the suburbs, who crawl on their hands and knees into shops in order to 'FRISK the till.'

3. (venery).—To 'HAVE (*q.v.*) a woman.' For synonyms, see RIDE.

TO DANCE THE PADDINGTON FRISK, *verb. phr.* (old).—To dance on nothing; *i.e.*, to be hanged. [Tyburn Tree was in Paddington.] For synonyms, see LADDER.



**FRISKER**, *subs.* (old).—A dancer.

1719. DUFREY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 20.  
At no Whitsun Ale there e'er yet had been  
Such Fraysters and FRISKERS as these  
lads and lasses.

**FRIVOL** or **FRIVVLE**, *verb.* (colloquial).—To act frivolously; to trifle. [A resuscitation of an old word used in another sense, viz., to annul, to set aside].

1883. W. BLACK, *Yolande*, ch. xx.  
'Mind, I am assuming that you mean  
business—if you want to FRIVOLE, and pick  
pretty posies, I shut my door on you but,  
I say, if you mean business, I have told  
Mrs. Bell you are to have access to my  
herbarium, whether I am there or not.'

**FROG**, *subs.* (common).—1. A policeman. For synonyms, see BEAK and COPPER.

1881. *New York Slang Dict.*, 'On the Trail.' I must amputate like a go-away, or the FROGS will nail me.

1886. *Graphic*, 30 Jan., p. 130, col. 1.  
A policeman is also called . . . a 'frog',  
the last-named because he is supposed to  
jump, as it were, suddenly upon guilty  
parties.

2. (common).—A Frenchman.

Also FROGGY and FROG-EATER.  
[Formerly a Parisian; the shield  
of whose city bore three toads,  
while the quaggy state of the  
streets gave point to a jest com-  
mon at Versailles before 1791:  
Qu'en disent les grenouilles? *i.e.*,  
What do the FROGS (the people  
of Paris) say?]

1883. *Referer*, 15 July, p. 7, col. 3.  
While Ned from Boulogne says 'Où mon  
brave,' The Froggies must answer for  
Tamatave.'

3. (popular).—A foot. For  
synonyms, see CREEPERS.

TO FROG ON, *verb. phr.* (American).—To get on; to prosper  
FROGGING-ON = success.

**FROG-AND-TOAD**, *subs.* (rhyming)  
—The main road.

**FROG-AND-TOE**, *subs.* (American  
thieves').—The city of New  
York.

1859. MATSELL *Vocabulary, or  
Rogue's Lexicon*, p. 35. Coves, let us  
FROG-AND-TOE, coves, let us go to New  
York.

**FROGLANDER**, *subs.* (old).—A  
Dutchman. Cf., FROG, sense 2.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-  
ing Crew*, s.v.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries, etc. of New  
York*, ch. xiv. The funny swag which  
they raised out of the FROGLANDER COVES.

**FROG-SALAD**, *subs.* (American).—A  
ballet; *i.e.*, a LEG-PIECE (*g.v.*).

**FROG'S MARCH**. TO GIVE THE  
FROG'S MARCH, *verb. phr.* (com-  
mon).—To carry a man face  
downwards to the station; a  
device adopted with drunken or  
turbulent prisoners.

1871. *Evening Standard*, 'Clerken-  
well Police Report,' 18 April. In cross-  
examination the police stated that they did  
not give the defendant the FROG'S MARCH.  
The FROG'S MARCH was described to be  
carrying the face downwards.

1884. *Daily News*, Oct. 4, p. 5, col. 2.  
They had to resort to a mode of carrying  
him, familiarly known in the force, we  
believe, as the FROG TROT, or sometimes  
as the FROG'S MARCH. . . . The prisoner is  
carried with his face downwards and his  
arms drawn behind him.

1888. *Daily Telegraph*, 22 Dec.  
Whether the 'bobbies' ran the tipsy man in,  
treating him meanwhile to a taste of the  
FROG'S MARCH, and whether he was fined  
or imprisoned for assaulting the police, is  
not upon the record.

1890. *Bird o' Freedom*, 19 Mar., p. 1  
col. 1. And then he gets the FROG'S  
MARCH to the nearest Tealeaf's.

**FROG'S WINE**, *subs. phr.* (old).—Gin. For synonyms, see **DRINKS** and **SATIN**.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**FROLIC**, *subs.* (common).—A merry-making.

1847. *ROBB. Squatter Life*, p. 133. At all the **FROLICKS** round the country, Jess was hangin' onter that gal.

**FROSTY-FACE**, *subs.* (old).—A pox-pitted man. *Grose* (1785).

**FRONT**, *verb* (thieves').—To conceal the operations of a pickpocket; to **COVER** (*q.v.*).

1879. *J. W. HORSLEY in Macmillan's Mag.*, XL, 506. So my pal said, 'FRONT me (cover me), and I will do him for it.'

**FRONT-ATTIC** (or **-DOOR**, **-GARDEN**, **-PARLOUR**, **-ROOM**, or **-WINDOW**). *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**. To **HAVE** (or **DO**) a **BIT OF FRONT-DOOR WORK** = to copulate.

1823. *BEE, Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. Mrs. Fubb's **FRONT-PARLOUR** (*vide* Tom Rees) is not to be mistaken for any part of any building.

**FRONT-DOOR MAT**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female pubic hair. For synonyms, see **FLEECE**.

**FRONT-GUT**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

**FRONTISPIECE**, *subs.* (pugilists').—The face. For synonyms, see **DIAL**.

1818. *P. EGAN, Boxiana*, I, p. 227. Tyne put in right and left upon the Jew's **FRONTISPIECE** two such severe blows, that Crabbe's countenance underwent a trifling change.

1845. *BUCKSTONE, Green Bushes*, i, 1. It's a marcy my switch didn't come in contract with your iligant **FRONTISPIECE**.

1880. *Chambers' Journal* XIII., p. 368. His forehead is his **FRONTISPIECE**.

1884. *A. TROLLOPE, Sm. Ho. at Allington* (1884), vol. ii, ch. V., p. 47. He said that he had had an accident—or rather, a row—and that he had come out of it with considerable damage to his **FRONTISPIECE**.

1891. *Sporting Life*, 28 Mar. It must be confessed that the ludicrous was attained when Griffiths subsequently appeared with a short black pipe in his distorted and battered **FRONTISPIECE**.

**FRONT-WINDOWS**, *subs.* (common).—1. The eyes; also the face.

2. In *sing.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. *Cf.*, **FRONT-ATTIC**; and for synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

**FROST**, *subs.* (common).—A complete failure. *Cf.*, *Fr.*, *un four noir*. Also *un temps noir*=a blank interval; a prolonged silence (as when an actor's memory fails him).

1885. *Saturday Review*, 15 Aug., p. 218. He is an absolute and perfect **FROST**.

1885. *Bells Life*, 3 Jan., p. 3, col. 6. We regret we cannot write favorably concerning this matter, the affair being almost as big a **FROST** athletically as it was financially.

1889. *Star*, 17 Jan. The pantomime was a dead **FROST**.

2. (common).—A dearth of work; to **HAVE A FROST**=to be idle.

**FROUDACIOUS**, **FROUDACITY**, *adj.* and *subs.* See *quots.*

1888. *Colonies and India*, 14 Nov. The word '**FROUDACITY**,' invented by Mr. Darnell Davis in his able review of *The Bow of Ulysses*, recently published, has reached the height of popularity in the Australasian Colonies, where it has come into everyday use. In the Melbourne Assembly the other day an hon. member observed—speaking of some remarks made by a previous speaker—that he never heard

such FROUDACIOUS statements in his life. The colonial papers are beginning, also, to spell the word with a small 'f,' which is significant.

1889. *Graphic*, 16 Feb. By exposing some of Mr. Froude's manifold errors (the most dangerous is that which assumes the sour Waikato clays to be rich because they grow fern) he justifies the Australian adjective FROUDACIOUS.

**FROUST, subs.** (Harrow School).—

1. Extra sleep allowed on Sunday mornings and whole holidays. Fr., *faire du lard*.

2. (common).—A stink; stuffiness (in a room).

**FROUSTY, adj.** (common).—Stinking.

**FROUT, adj.** (Winchester College).—Angry; vexed.

**FROW (or FROE, or VROE), subs.** (old).—A woman; a wife; a mistress. [From the Dutch.]

1607. DEKKER, *Westward Ho*, Act V. Sc. 1. Eat with 'em as hungerly as soldiers; drink as if we were FROES.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, V. Brush to your FROE and wheedle for crap, c. whip to your mistress and speak her fair to give or lend you some Money.

1754. B. MARTIN, *Eng. Dict.* (2 ed.), s.v.

1789. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 119. A flash of lightning next Bess tipt each cull and FROW.

**FRUITFUL VINE, subs. phr.** (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. FRUITFUL VINE. A woman's private parts, i.e., that has flowers every month, and bears fruit in nine.

**FRUMMAGED, adj.** (old).—Choked; strangled; spoilt.

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, Pt. I., ch. v., 49 (1874). FRUMMAGED, Choakt.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* FRUMMIGAM, c. choaked.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Choaked, strangled, or hanged. Cant.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xxviii. 'If I had not helped you with these very fambles (holding up her hands), Jean Baillie would have FRUMMAGED you, ye feckless do-little!'

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 21. There he lay, almost FRUMMAGED.

**FRUMP, subs.** (old).—1. A contemptuous speech or piece of conduct; a sneer; a jest.

1553. WILSON, *Art of Rhetorique*, p. 137. (He) shall be able to abashe a right worthie man, and make him at his witte's ende, through the sodaine quicke and vnlooked FRUMPE giuen.

1589. GREENE, *Menaphon*, p. 45. For women's paines are more pinching if they be girded with a FRUMPE than if they be galled with a mischiefe.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Bichiacchia*, jestes, toyes, FRUMPS, flimflam tales, etc.

1606. T. DEKKER, *Seven Deadly Sinnes*, p. 44 (ed. Arber). The courtiers gives you an open scoffe, ye clown a secret mock, the cittizen yat dwels at your threshald, a ieery FRUMP.

1630. TAYLOR, *Works*. But yet, me thinks, he gives thee but a FRUMPE, In telling how thee kist a wenches rumpe.

1662. *Rump Songs*, 'Arsy-Varsy, etc., ii., 47. As a preface of honor and not as a FRUMP, First with a Sir reverence ushers the Rump.

1668. DRYDEN, *An Evening's Love* Act IV. Sc. 3. Not to be behindhand with you in your FRUMPS, I give you back your purse of gold.

2. (common).—A slattern; more commonly a prim old lady; the correlative of FOGY (*q.v.*). Fr., *un grailon*.

1831. J. R. PLANCHÉ, *Olympic Revels*, Sc. 1. Cheat, you stingy FRUMP! Who wants to cheat?

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, I., p. 157. Get into the hands of the other old FRUMPS.



1857. THACKERAY, *Virginians*, ch. xxxi. She is changed now, isn't she? What an old Gorgon it is! She is a great patroness of your book-men, and when that old FRUMP was young they actually made verses about her.

3. (old).—A cheat; a trick.

1602. ROWLAND, *Greene's Ghost*, 37. They come off with their . . . FRUMPS

*Verb* (old).—To mock; to insult.

1589. NASHE, *Month's Mind*, in Works, Vol. I., p. 158. One of them . . . maketh a iest of *Princes*, and '*the troubling of the State, and offending of her Maestie*', hee turneth of with a FRUMPING *forsooth*, as though it were a toie to think of it.

1593. G. HARVEY, *Pierces Super*, in Works II., 107. That despiseth the graces of God, floweth the constellations of heaven, FRUMPETH the operations of nature.

1609. *Man in the Moone*. Hee . . . FRUMPETH those his mistresse frownes on.

1757. GARRICK, *Irish Widow*, I., i. Yes, he was FRUMPED, and called me old blockhead.

**FRUMPER**, *subs.* (old).—A sturdy man; a good blade.

1825. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict.*, s.v.

**FRUMPISH**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Cross-grained; old-fashioned and severe in dress, manners, morals, and notions; ill-natured; given to frumps. Also FRUMPY.

1589. GREENE, *Tullies Love*, in wks. vii., 131. Who were you but as favourable, as you are FRUMPISH, would soone censure by my talke, how deepe I am reade in lous principles.

1701. FARQUHAR, *Sir Harry Wildair*, Act. V., Sc. 5. She got, I don't know how, a crotchet of jealousy in her head. This made her FRUMPISH, but we had ne'er an angry word.

1757. FOOTE, *Author*, Act II. And methought she looked very FRUMPISH and jealous.

1764. O'HARA, *Midas*, I., 3. La! mother, why so FRUMPISH?

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, Bk. I., ch. xi. 'Don't fancy me a FRUMPY old married woman, my dear; I was married but the other day, you know.'

1889. *Modern Society*, 12 Oct., p. 1271, col. 2. Quite an elderly and superannuated look is given to the toilette which is finished off by a woollen cloud or silken shawl, and only invalids and sixty-year-old women should be allowed such FRUMPISH privileges.

**FRUSHEE**, *subs.* (Scots').—An open jam tart.

**FRY**, *verb* (common).—To translate into plain English. Cf., BOIL DOWN.

1881. JAS. PAVN, *Grape from a Thorn*, ch. xxx. 'I shall repose the greatest confidence in you, my dear girl, which one human being can entrust to another,' was one of its sentences, which, when it came 'to be FRIED,' meant that she should delegate to her the duties of combing Fido and cutting her canary's claws.

GO AND FRY YOUR FACE, *phr.* (common).—A retort expressive of incredulity, derision, or contempt.

**FRYING-PAN**. TO JUMP FROM THE FRYING-PAN INTO THE FIRE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To go from bad to worse. Cf., 'from the smoke into the smother' (*As You Like it*, i., 2.). Fr., *tomber de la poêle dans la braise*.

1684. BUNYAN, *Pilgrim's Progress*, Part II. Some, though they shun the FRYING-PAN, do leap into the fire.

TO FRY THE PEWTER, *verb phr.* (thieves').—To melt down pewter measures.

**F SHARP**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A flea; cf., B flat.

**FUANT**, *subs.* (old).—Excrement.—B.E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*.

**FUB**, *verb.* (old).—To cheat; to steal; to put off with false excuses. Also FUBBERY=cheating, stealing, deception.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, II., 1. I have borne, and borne, and borne, and have been FUBBED OFF, and FUBBED OFF from this day to that day.

1604. MARSTON, *Malcontent*, i., 3. O no; but dream the most fantastical. O heaven! O FUBBERV! FUBBERV!

1619. FLETCHER, *Mons. Thomas*, ii., 2. My letter FUBBED too.

1647. CARTWRIGHT, *Ordinary* iv., 4. I won't be FUBBED.

**FUBSEY** or **FUBSY**, *adj.* (old).—Plump; fat; well-filled. FUBSY DUMMY = a well-filled pocket book; FUBSY wench = a plump girl.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1825. *English Spy*, I., p. 188. Old dowagers, their FUBSY faces, Painted to eclipse the Graces.

1837. MARRYAT, *Snarley-yow*, I., ch. viii. Seated on the widow's little FUBSY sofa.

**FUBSINESS**, *subs.* (common).—Any sort of fatness.

**FUCK**, *subs.* (venery).—I. An act of coition. For synonyms, *see* GREENS.

2. (venery).—The seminal fluid. For synonyms, *see* CREAM.

*Verb.* (common).—To copulate. For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

c. 1540. DAVID LYNDNAV, '*Flying with King James*.' Aye FUKKAND like ane furious fornicator.

1568. CLERK, *Bannatyne MSS.*, Hunterian Soc. Publication, p. 298. He clappit fast, he kist, he chukkit, As with the glaikkis he wer ourgane; Yit be his feiris he wald haif FUKKIT.

1568. Anonymous, *Bannatyne MSS.*, Hunterian Soc. Publication, p. 399. 'In Somer when Flouris will Smell, Allace! said sch, my awin sweet thing, Your courtly FUKKING garis me fling, Ye wirk sae weill.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes, Fottere*. To jape; to sarde, to FUCKE; to swive; to occupy.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.*, p. 459. [Hales and Furnivall, 1867.] A mighty mind to clipp, kisse, and to FFUCK her.

1647-80. ROCHESTER, '*Written under Nelly's Picture*.' Her father FUCCKED them right together.

1683. EARL OF DORSET, '*A Faithful Catalogue*.' From St. James's to the Land of Thule, There's not a whore who F—s so like a mule.

c. 1716-1746. ROBERTSON of Struan, *Poems*, 256. But she gave proof that she could f—k, Or she is damnably bely'd.

1728. BAILEY, *English Dict.*, s.v. FUKK . . . *Feminam subigitare*.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. F—k, to copulate.

c. 1790(?). BURNS, *Merry Muses*. And yet misca's a poor thing That FUCKS for its bread.

**FUCKABLE**, *adj.* (venery).—Desirable. Also FUCKSOME.

**FUCKER**, *subs.* (common).—I. A lover; a FANCY JOSEPH (*q.v.*).

2. (common).—A term of endearment, admiration, derision, etc.

**FUCK-FINGER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A fricatix.

**FUCK-FIST**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A FRIGSTER (*q.v.*); a masturbator. For synonyms, *see* MILKMAN.

**FUCK-HOLE**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**FUCKING**, *subs.* (venery).—Generic for the 'act of kind.'

1568. SCOTT, *Bannatyne MSS.*, Hunterian Soc. Publication, p. 363. 'To the Derisoun of Wantoun Wemen, Thir foure, the suth to sane, Enforsis thame to FUKKING . . . Quod Scott.

1575. *Satirical Poems, etc.*, Scottish Text Soc. Pub. (1889-90) i., 208. 'A Lewd Ballat.' To se forett the holy frere his fukking so deplore.

*Adj.* (common). — A qualification of extreme contumely.

*Adv.* (common). — I. Intensive and expletive; a more violent form of BLOODY (*q.v.*). See FOUTERING.

**FUCKISH**, *adj.* (venery). — Wanton; PROUD (*q.v.*); inclined for coition.

**FUCKSTER**, *subs.* (venery). — A good PERFORMER (*q.v.*); one specially addicted to the act. A WOMAN-FUCKER (FLORIO), but in feminine FUCKSTRESS.

**FUD**, *subs.* (venery). — The pubic hair. For synonyms, see FLEECE. Also the tail of a hare or rabbit.

1785. BURNS, *The Jolly Beggars*. They scarcely left to co'er their FUDS.

**FUDDLE**, *subs.* (common). — I. Drink. [Wedgwood: A corruption of FUZZ.]

1621. BURTON, *Anatomy of Melancholy*. The university troop dined with the Earl of Abingdon and came back well FUZZED.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v. FUDDLE, Drink. 'This is rum FUDDLE, c. this is excellent Tipple.'

1705. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, I., Pt. iv., p. 18. And so, said I, we sip'd our FUDDLE, As women in the straw do caudle, 'Till every man had drown'd his noddle.

1733. BAILEY, *Erasmus*, p. 125 (ed. 1877). Don't go away; they have had their dose of FUDDLE.

2. (common). — A drunken bout; a DRUNK.

1864. *Glasgow Citizen*, 9 Dec. Turner is given to a FUDDLE at times.

*Verb.* (colloquial). — To be drunk.

1720. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 265. All day he will FUDDLE.

1754. B. MARTIN, *Eng. Dict.* (2nd ed.). To FUDDLE. 1. To make a person drunk. 2. To grow drunk.

1770. FOOTE, *Lame Lover*, iii. Come, Hob or Nob, Master Circuit—let us try if we can't FUDDLE the serjeant.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. x. He boxed the watch; he FUDDLED himself at taverns; he was no better than a Mohock.

1889. *Echo*, 15 Feb. If rich, you may FUDDLE with Bacchus all night, And be borne to your chamber remarkably tight.

**FUDDLECAP** (or **FUDDLER**), *subs.* (common). — A drunkard; a boon companion. For synonyms, see LUSHINGTON.

1607. DEKKER, *Jests to make you Merie*, in wks. (GROSART) ii., 299. And your perfect FUDDLECAP [is known] by his red nose.

d. 1682. T. BROWNE, *Works*, iii., 93. True Protestant FUDDLECAPS.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FUDDLECAP, a drunkard.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.) FUDDLECAP (S.) one that loves tipping, an excessive drinker, or drunkard.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**FUDDLED**, *adj.* (colloquial). — Stupid with drink. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1661. PEPYS, *Diary*, 8 March. After dinner, to drink all the afternoon . . . at last come in Sir William Wale, almost FUDDLED.

1713. *Guardian*, No. 145. It was my misfortune to call in at Tom's last night, a little FUDDLED.

1730. THOMSON, *Autumn*, 537. The table floating round, And pavement faithless to the FUDDLED foot.

1838. DICKENS, *Nick Nickleby*, ch. lx., p. 485. You're a little FUDDLED to-



night, and may not be able to see this as clearly as you would at another time.

1841. *Punch*, I., p. 74. The Sultan got very FUDDED last night with forbidden juice in the harem, and tumbled down the ivory steps.

1864. *Glasgow Citizen*, 19 Nov. No other word has so many equivalents as 'drunk.' . . . One very common and old one has escaped Mr. Hotten — FUDDED.

1888. *Daily News*, 28 Nov. Music halls would soon decrease in numbers if drink were not sold in them, for sober people would not go to see spectacles only attractive to those who were half FUDDED.

**FUDGE**, *subs.* (colloquial). — Nonsense; humbug; an exaggeration; a falsehood. [Provincial French, *fuche, feuche*; an exclamation of contempt from Low Ger. *futsch* = begone; *see*, however, *quots.* 1700 and 1712.] Also as an exclamation of contempt.

1700. ISAAC DISRAELI, *Notes on the Navy*. There was, in our time, one Captain Fudge, a commander of a merchant-man; who, upon his return from a voyage, always brought home a good cargo of lies; insomuch that now, aboard ship, the sailors, when they hear a great lie, cry out FUDGE.

1712. W. CROUCH, *A Collection of Papers*. In the year 1664 we were sentenced for banishment to Jamaica by Judges Hyde and Twisden, and our number was 55. We were put on board the ship Black Eagle; the master's name was FUDGE, by some called LYING FUDGE.

1766. GOLDSMITH, *Vicar of Wakefield*, ch. xi. Who . . . would cry out FUDGE! an expression which displeased us all, and, in some measure, damped the rising spirit of the conversation.

1841. LYTTON, *Night and Morning*, Bk. II., ch. vii. Very genteel young man—pre-possessing appearance—(that's a FUDGE!)—highly educated; usher in a school—eh?

1850. THACKERAY, *Rebecca and Rowena*, ch. i. Her ladyship's proposition was what is called bosh . . . or FUDGE in plain Saxon.

1861. *Cornhill Magazine*, iv., 102. 'A Cumberland Mare's Nest.' . . . Up jumped the worthy magistrate, And seizing 'Burn', Of justices the oracle and badge, he straight Descended to his 'lion's den' (a *sobriquet* in FUDGE meant) Where he, 'a second Daniel,' had often 'come to judgment.'

1864. *Tangled Talk*, p. 108. It is FUDGE to tell a child to 'love' every living creature—a tapeworm, for instance, such as is bottled up in chemists windows.

1865. *Morning Star*, 1 June. Old as I am and half *woor* out, I would *lay* (too bad, Mr. Henley, this) upon my back and hallo FUDGE!

1892. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 Oct., p. 2, col. 2. Much that we hear concerning the ways and means of the working classes is sheer FUDGE.

**Verb.** (colloquial). — 1. To fabricate; to interpolate; to contrive without proper materials.

1776. FOOTE, *The Bankrupt*, iii., 2. That last 'suppose' is FUDGED in.

1836. MARRYAT, *Midshipman Easy*, ch. xviii. By the time that he did know something about navigation, he discovered that his antagonist knew nothing. Before they arrived at Malta, Jack could FUDGE a day's work.

1858. SHIRLEY BROOKS, *Gordian Knot*. Robert Spencer was hiding from his creditors, or FUDGING medical certificates.

1859. G. A. SALA, in *John Bull*, 21 May. I had provided myself with a good library of books of Russian travel, and so FUDGED my *Journey Due North*.

2. (schoolboys') — To copy; to crib; to dodge or escape.

1877. BLANCH, *The Blue Coat Boys*, p. 97. FUDGE, *verb.*, *trans.* and *intrans.* To prompt a fellow in class, or prompt oneself in class artificially. Thence to tell; *e.g.*, 'FUDGE me what the time is.'

3. (common). — To botch; to bungle; to MUFF (*q.v.*)

4. (schoolboys'). — To advance the hand unfairly at marbles.

**FUG**, *verb* (Shrewsbury School).—To stay in a stuffy room.

**FUGEL**, *verb*. (venery).—To possess;  
TO HAVE (*q.v.*).

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 126.  
Who FUGELLED the Parson's fine Maid.

**FUGGY**, *subs.* (schoolboys').—A hot roll.

*Adj.* (Shrewsbury School).—Stuffy.

**FUGO**, *subs.* (obsolete). — The rectum, or (COTGRAVE) 'bung-hole.'

1720. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 247.  
This maid, she like a beast turned her FUGO to the East.

**FULHAMS** or **FULLAMS**, *subs.* (old).—Loaded dice; called 'high' or 'low' FULHAMS as they were intended to turn up high or low. *Cf.*, GOURDS. [Conjecturally, because manufactured at Fulham, or because that village was a notorious resort of blacklegs.] For synonyms, see UPHILLS.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Traveller*, in wks. v., 27. The dice of late are grown as melancholy as a dog, high men and low men both prosper alike, langrets, FULLAMS, and all the whole fellowship of them will not afford a man his dinner.

1596. SHAKESPEARE. *Merry Wives of Windsor*, i., 3. Let vultures gripe thy guts! for gourd, and FULLAM holds, And high and low beguile the rich and poor.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man out of His Hum.*, iii., 1. *Car.*: Who! he serve? 'sblood, he keeps high men, and low men, he! he has—fair living at Fullam. [Whalley's note in Gifford's *Jonson*, 'The dice were loaded to run high or low; hence they were called *high men* or *low men*, and sometimes high and low FULLAMS. Called FULLAMS either because F. was the resort of sharpers, or because they were chiefly made there.]

1664. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, Part II., C. i., l. 642. But I do wonder you should chuse This way t' attack me with your muse, As one cut out to pass your tricks on, With FULHAMS of poetic fiction.

[Note in Dr. Nash's Ed., vol. I., p. 272 (Ed. 1835). 'That is, with cheats or impositions. FULHAM was a cant word for a false die, many of them being made at that place.']

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xxiii. Men talk of high and low dice, FULHAMS and bristles . . . and a hundred ways of rooking besides.

2. (colloquial). — A sham; a MAKE-BELIEVE (*q.v.*). [From sense 1.]

1664. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, ii., 1, FULHAMS of poetic fiction.

**FULHAM VIRGIN**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A fast woman. *Cf.*, BANKSIDE LADY; COVENT GARDEN NUN; ST. JOHN'S WOOD VESTAL, etc.

**FULK**, *verb* (old schoolboys').—To use an unfair motion of the hand in plumping at law.—GROSE.

**FULKE**, *verb* (venery).—To copulate. [A euphemism suggested by Byron in *Don Juan*, the first and last words of which, so adepts tell you, are 'I' and 'FULKE.']

**FULKER**, *subs.* (old).—A pawn-broker. For synonyms, see UNCLE.

1566. GASCOIGNE, *Supposes*, ii., 3. The FULKER will not lend you a farthing upon it.

**FULL**, *adj.* (colloquial).—1. Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 15 Dec. When he was FULL the police came and jugged.

2. (turf). Used by book-makers to signify that they have laid all the money they wish against a particular horse.

**FULL-GUTS**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A swag-bellied man or woman.

A FULL HAND, *subs. phr.* (American waiters'). Five large beers. For analogous expressions, *see* GO.

FULL IN THE BELLY, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—With child.

FULL IN THE PASTERNS (OR THE HOCKS), *subs. phr.* (colloquial). Thick-ankled.

FULL TEAM, *subs. phr.* (American). An eulogium. A man is a FULL TEAM when of consequence in the community. Variants are WHOLE TEAM, or WHOLE TEAM AND A HORSE TO SPARE. *Cf.*, ONE-HORSE = mean, insignificant, or strikingly small.

FULL IN THE WAISTCOAT, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Swag-bellied.

FULL OF 'EM, *adj. phr.* (common).—Lousy; nitty; full of fleas.

FULL TO THE BUNG, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Very drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

TO HAVE (OR WEAR) A FULL SUIT OF MOURNING, *verb. phr.* (pugilists').—To have two black eyes. HALF-MOURNING = one black eye. For synonyms, *see* MOUSE.

TO COME FULL BOB, *verb. phr.* (old colloquial).—To come suddenly; to come full tilt.

1672. MARVELL, *Rehearsal Transposed* (in Grosart, iii., 414). The page and you meet FULL BOB.

FULL AGAINST, *adv. phr.* I. Dead, or decidedly opposed to, a person, thing, or place.

FULL-BOTTOMED (or -BREECHED, or -POOPED), *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Broad in the behind; BARGE-ARSED (*q.v.*)

FULL-FLAVOURED, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Peculiarly rank: as a story, an exhibition of profane swearing, an emission of wind, etc.

FULL - FLEDGED, *adv. phr.* (venery).—Ripe for defloration.

FULL-GUTTED, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Stout; swag-bellied.

FULL OF EMPTINESS, *adv. phr.* (common).—Utterly void.

FULL ON, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Set strongly in a given direction, especially in an obscene sense: *e.g.*, FULL ON FOR IT or FULL ON FOR ONE = ready and willing *au possible*.

AT FULL CHISEL, *adv. phr.* (American).—At full speed; with the greatest violence or impetuosity. Also FULL DRIVE; FULL SPLIT. *Cf.*, HICKETY SPLIT; RIPPING; STAVING ALONG; TWO-THIRTY, etc.

IN FULL BLAST, SWING, etc., *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—In the height of success; in hot pursuit.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, 5 a.m., Part I. At five a.m. the publication of the *Times* newspaper is, to use a north-country mining expression, in 'FULL BLAST.'

1884. *Daily News*, Feb. 9, p. 5, col. 2. If he visit New York in that most pleasant season, the autumn, he will find that the 'fall' trade is 'in FULL BLAST.'

1888. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 Nov. By half-past ten o'clock the smoking-room was in FULL SWING.

IN FULL DIG, *adv. phr.* (common).—On full pay.



IN FULL FEATHER, *see* FEATHER.

IN FULL FIG.—I. *See* FIG (to which may be added the following illustrative quotations).

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 178. In front of this shed—FULL FIG, in regular Highland costume, philabeg, short hose, green coatee, bonnet and feather, marched the bagpiper.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cringle's Log*, ch. xi. Captain Transom, the other lieutenant, and myself in full puff, leading the van, followed by about fourteen seamen.

1893. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, (2nd ed.), ch. viii. 'Lookin' as pleased as a peacock when it's IN FULL FIG with its head and tail up.'

1841. *Punch*, i., p. 26, col. 1. Dressed IN FULL FIG—sword very troublesome—getting continually between my legs.

1874. MRS. H. WOOD, *Johnny Ludlow* (1st ed.), No. IV., p. 62. When our church bells were going for service, Major Parrifer's carriage turned out with the ladies all IN FULL FIG.

2. *adv. phr.* (venery).—Said of an erection of the *penis*; PRICK-PROUD (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* HORN.

LIKE A STRAW-YARD BULL: FULL OF FUCK AND HALF STARVED, *phr.* (venery). A friendly retort to the question, 'How goes it?' *i.e.*, How are you?

FULL OF IT, *phr.* (common).—With child.

FULL OF GUTS, *phr.* (colloquial).—Full of vigour; excellently inspired and done: as a picture, a novel, and so forth. *See* GUTS.

FULL OF BEANS, *see* BEANS.

FULL OF BREAD, *see* BREAD.

FULLER'S EARTH, *subs. phr.* (old).—Gin. For synonyms, *see* SATIN.

1821. *Real Life in London*, i., 394. The swell covies and out-and-outers find nothing so refreshing, after a night's spree, when the victualling office is out of order, as a little FULLER'S EARTH, or dose of Daff's.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, iii., 3. Bring me de kwarten of de FULLER'S EARTH.

FULLIED. TO BE FULLIED, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To be committed for trial. [From the newspaper expression, 'Fully committed.'] Fr., *être mis sur la planche au pain*.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *London Lab. and Lon. Poor*, Vol. iii., p. 397. He got acquitted for that there note after he had me 'pinched' (arrested). I got FULLIED (fully committed).

1879. HORSLEY, 'Autobiography of a Thief,' in *Macmillan's Magazine*, xl., 506. I . . . was then FULLIED and got this stretch and a half.

1889. *Answers*, 13 April, p. 313. At the House of Detention I often noticed such announcements as 'Jack from Bradford FULLIED for smashing, and expects seven stretch,' *i.e.*, fully committed for trial for passing bad money, and expects seven years' penal servitude.

FULNESS. THERE'S NOT FULNESS ENOUGH IN THE SLEEVE TOP. *phr.* (tailors').—A derisive answer to a threat.

FUMBLER, *subs.* (old).—An impotent man.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FUMBLER, c., an unperforming husband; one that is insufficient; a weak Brother.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 312. The old FUMBLER (title).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

c 1790. BURNS, 'David and Bathsheba,' p. 40. 'By Jove,' says she, 'what's this I see, my Lord the King's a FUMBLER.'

FUMBLER'S HALL, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. *See*, however, quot. 1690. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. FUMBLER'S HALL, the place where such (FUMBLERS, *q.v.*) are to be put for their non-performance.

FREE OF FUMBLER'S HALL,  
*phr.*—Said of an impotent man.

**FUMBLES**, *subs.* (thieves').—Gloves

1825. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict*  
*s.v.*

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, 'or  
*Rogue's Lexicon s.v.*

1881. *New York Slang Dict.*, *s.v.*

**FUN**, *subs.* (old).—I. A cheat ; a  
trick.

1690. B.E., *New Dict. of the Cant-  
ing Crew s.v.*

2. (old).—The posteriors,  
or WESTERN END (MARVELL).  
Probably an abbreviation of fun-  
dament. For synonyms, see  
BLIND CHEEKS and MONOCULAR  
EYE-GLASS.

1690. B.E., *New Dict. of the Cant-  
ing Crew*. I'll kick your FUN, *c.*, I'll kick  
your arse.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, *s.v.*

*Verb.* (old).—I. To cheat ; to  
trick. Also TO PUT THE FUN ON.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-  
ing Crew*. What do you FUN me? Do you  
think to Sharp or Trick me? *Ibid.* He put  
the FUN upon the cull, *c.*, he sharp'd  
the Fellow. *Ibid.* I FUNN'd him, *c.*, I was too  
hard for him ; I outwitted or rook'd him.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, *s.v.*

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, or  
*Rogue's Lexicon*, *s.v.*

TO POKE FUN AT, *verb. phr.*  
(colloquial).—To joke ; to ridi-  
cule ; to make a butt.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*,  
*i.*, p. 280. O fie! Mister Noakes,—for  
shame, Mr. Noakes! To be POKING YOUR  
FUN at us plain-dealing folks.

1855. HALIBURTON ('Sam Slick')  
*Human Nature*, p. 124. I thought you  
was POKIN' FUN at me ; for I am a poor  
ignorant farmer, and these people are  
always making game of me.

1865. NEAL, *Charcoal Sketches* (in  
Bartlett). Jeames, if you don't be quit  
POKING FUN at me, I'll break your mouth,  
as sure as you sit there.

TO HAVE BEEN MAKING FUN,  
*verb. phr.* (common).—Intoxi-  
cated. For synonyms, see  
DRINKS and SCREWED.

TO HAVE (OR DO) A BIT OF FUN,  
*verb. phr.* (venery).—To procure  
or enjoy the sexual favour. For  
synonyms, see GREENS..

**FUNCTION** or **FUNCTURE**, *subs.*  
(Winchester College).—An iron  
bracket candlestick, used for the  
nightlight in college chambers.  
[The word, says *Winchester  
Notions*, looks like *fulctura*,  
an earlier form of *fulture*, mean-  
ing a prop or stay with phonetic  
change of *l* into *n*.]

1870. MANSFIELD, *School Life at  
Winchester*, p. 68. Beside the window  
yawned the great fireplace, with its  
dogs, on which rested the faggots and  
bars for the reception of the array of  
boilers. Above it was a rushlight, fixed in  
a circular iron pan fastened to a staple in  
the wall ; it was called the FUNCTION.

**FUNDAMENTAL FEATURES**, *subs.*  
*phr.* (common).—The posteriors.  
For synonyms, see BLIND  
CHEEKS and MONOCULAR EYE-  
GLASS.

1818. MOORE, *Fudge Family*, *ix.*,  
Aug. 21. O can we wonder, best of  
speechers, When Louis *seated* thus we see,  
That France's 'FUNDAMENTAL FEATURES'  
Are much the same they used to be?

**FUNDS**, *subs.* (colloquial).—  
Finances ; *e.g.* 'my FUNDS are  
very low.'

**FUNERAL.** IT'S NOT MY (OR YOUR) FUNERAL, *verb. phr.* (American). —i.e., It is no business of mine, or yours. Fr., *nib dans mes blots* (=that is not my affair). Also used affirmatively.

1867. MRS. WHITNEY, *A Summer in Leslie Goldthwaite's Life*, p. 183. 'It's NONE OF MY FUNERAL, I know, Sin Saxon,' said Miss Craydocke. 'I'm only an eleventh-hour helper; but I'll come in for the holiday business . . . that's more in my line.'

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. . This is NONE OF YOUR FUNERAL is heard quite frequently as an indirect rebuke for intermeddling, with the ludicrous undercurrent of thought, that the troublesome meddler has no right to be crying at a strange man's funeral.

1877. *Hartford Times*, 17 Oct. Senators Blaine and Barnum passed down to New York, *en route* to Washington, on Wednesday last, when Barnum asked Blaine how he liked the news from Ohio. 'Oh, that ISN'T MY FUNERAL, I want you to understand,' replied the plucky Maine Senator.

1888. *Missouri Republican*, 8 Apr. After a lot of slides had been exhibited the audience howled for Miss Debar. It got so noisy that Mr. Marsh reluctantly exclaimed—'Well, is this YOUR FUNERAL or mine?'

**FUNGUS**, *subs.* (old).—An old man.

**FUNK**, *subs.* (old).—I. Tobacco smoke; also a powerful stink. Cf., Ger., *funke*; Walloon *funki*.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. What a FUNK here is! What a thick smoke. Smoak of Tobacco is here! *Ibid.* Here's a damn'd FUNK, here's a great stink.

2. (vulgar).—A state of fear; trepidation, nervousness, or cowardice; a STEW (*q.v.*). Generally, with an intensive, e.g., a 'mortal,' 'awful,' 'bloody,' 'blue,' or 'pissing' FUNK. Fr., *la guenette*; *le flubart* (thieves?); *la frousse* (also = diarrhoea). It., *filo* = thread.

1796. WOLCOTT, *Pindarina*, p. 59. If they find no brandy to get drunk, Their souls are in a miserable FUNK.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 21. Up he rose in a FUNK.

1821. P. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* (1890), p. 91. I was in a complete FUNK.

1837. BARHAM, I. L., *Look at the Clock*, ed. 1862, p. 39. Pryce, usually brimful of valour when drunk, Now experienced what schoolboys denominate FUNK.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 9. The mules, which was a-snoiting with FUNK and running before the Injuns . . . followed her right into the corral, and thar they was safe.

1850. *Literary World* (New York), 30 Nov. So my friend's fault is timidity . . . I grant, then, that the FUNK is sublime, which is a true and friendly admission.

1856. THOMAS HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School-days*, p. 196. If I was going to be flogged next minute, I should be in a blue FUNK.

1859. WHITTY, *Political Portraits*, p. 30. Lord Clarendon did not get through the business without these failures, which result from the intellectual process termed freely FUNK.

1861. *Macmillan's Magazine*, p. 211. I was in a real blue FUNK.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. xxxvi. I was in a real blue FUNK and no mistake.

1870. *London Figaro*, 19 Oct. After the Fire. He was in a mortal FUNK, no doubt.

1871. MAXWELL, in *Life* (1882), xvi., 382. Certainly *χαλάρων ζέοις* is the Homeric for a blue FUNK.

1888. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, 29 Dec., p. 395. You're always in a FUNK about nothing at all.

3. (schoolboys').—A coward.

1882. F. ANSTEV, *Vice Versa*, ch. v. Bosher said, 'Let's cut it,' and he and Peebles bolted. (They were neither of them FUNKS, of course, but they lost their heads.)

*Verb.* (common).—I. To smoke out. See FUNK THE COBBLER.



1720. DURFEY, *Wit and Mirth*, vi., 303. With a sober dose Of coffee FUNKS his nose.

1578. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. FUNK, to smoke, figuratively to smoke or stink through fear.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 2. *Tom*. But, I say, only see how confoundedly the dustman's getting hold of Logic—we'll FUNK him. (*Tom and Jerry smoke Logic*). *Log*. Oh, hang your cigars, I don't like it; let's have no FUNKING.

1841. *Punch*, I., p. 172. Look here . . . isn't it considerable clear they're a all FUNKING like burnt cayenne in a clay pipe, or couldn't they have made a raise somehow to get a ship of their own, or borrow one to send after that caged-up coon of a Macleod.

2. (common).—To terrify; to shrink or quail through nervousness or cowardice.

1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, Bk. III., ch. vi., p. 294. Perhaps we're only FUNKING ourselves useless, and it mayn't be the farm chaps at all.

3. (colloquial).—To fear; to hesitate; to shirk; and (among pugilists) TO COME IT (*q.v.*).

1836. SMITH, *The Individual*, 'The Thieves' Chant.' But dearer to me Sue's kisses far Than grunting peck or other grub are, And I never FUNK the lambskin men When I sits with her in the boozing ken.

1846. *Punch*, X., p. 163. But as yet no nose is bleeding, As yet no man is down; For the gownsmen FUNK the townsmen, And the townsmen FUNK the gown.

1848. J. R. LOWELL, *Biglow Papers*. To FUNK right out o' plit'cal strife ain't thought to be the thing

1873. M. COLLINS, *Squire Silchester's Whim*, ch. xvii. Come along! don't FUNK it, old fellow.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—To come it; to lose one's guts; to shit one's breeches; to get the needle (athletic).

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Paniquer* (thieves': *Panique* = sudden fright); *blaguer* (familiar: = to swagger: *Il avait l'air de blaguer mais il n'était pas à la noce* = he put on a lot of side, but he didn't like it); *avec la cœur en gargousse* (sailors' = with sinking heart); *avoir une fluxion* (popular: *fluxion* = inflammation); *avoir la flemme* (popular: also = to be idle); *avoir le trac or trak* (general); *foirer* (popular: *foire* = excrement); *léziner* (popular: also = to cheat).

SPANISH SYNONYM. — *Pajarear*.

ITALIAN SYNONYM. — *Filare* (= to run: Fr., *filer*).

4. (colloquial).—To be nervous; to lose heart.

1827. 'Advice to Tommy,' *Every Night Book* (by the author of 'The Cigar'). Do not go out of your depth, unless you have available assistance at hand, in case you should FUNK.

1856. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School Days*, ii., p. 5. He's FUNKING; go in Williams!

1857. MONCRIEFF, *The Bashful Man*, ii., 4. Ah! Gyp, hope I sha'n't get *plucked*; FUNK confoundedly: no matter, I must put a bold face on it.

1857. HOOD, *Pen and Pencil Pictures*, p. 144. I have seen him out with the governor's hounds: he FUNKED at the first hedge, and I never saw him again!

1863. READE, *Hard Cash*, ii., p. 135. I told him I hadn't a notion of what he meant! 'O yes I did,' he said, 'Captain Dodd's fourteen thousand pounds! It had passed through my hands.' Then I began to FUNK again at his knowing that. . . . I was flustered, ye see.

1865. H. KINGSLEY, *The Hillyars and the Burtons*, ch. xxxiii. The sound of the table falling was the signal for a

rush of four men from the inner room, who had to use a vulgar expression, FUNKED following the valiant scoundrel Sykes, but who now tried to make their escape, and found themselves hand to hand with the policemen.

1871. *Morning Advertiser*, 11 Sept. 'Holy Abr'ham!' mused he vauntingly, 'shall British sailors FUNK, While tracts refresh their spirits, tea washes down their junk?'

1890. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 17 Oct. p. 2, col. 1. They wanted badly to get one steamer loaded and sent to New Zealand. The non-union men FUNKED loading her on account of the union men.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gazette*, 13 Feb. Smith's friends thought he was FUNKING, and shouted to Tom to go in and punch him.

5. (schoolboys').—To move the hand forward unfairly in playing marbles; to FUDGE (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. FUNK, to use an unfair motion of the hand in plumping at taw.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 144. I've noticed them, too, playing at ring-taw, and one of their exclamations is 'Knuckle down fair, and no FUNKING.'

TO FUNK THE COBBLER, *verb. phr.* (schoolboys').—To smoke out a schoolmate: a trick performed with asafetida and cotton stuffed into a hollow tube or cow's horn; the cotton being lighted, the smoke is blown through the key-hole.

1698-1700. WARD, *London Spy*, Pt. IX., p. 197. Wesmoak'd the Beans almost as bad as unlucky schoolboys us'd to do the COBLERS, till they sneak'd off one by one, and left behind 'em more agreeable Company.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

See also PETER FUNK.

**FUNKER**, *subs.* (old).—I. A pipe; a cigar; a fire. [From FUNK=to smoke + ER.]

2. (thieves').—A low thief.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, etc., s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum, or Rogue's Lexicon*. FUNKERS, the very lowest order of thieves.

3. (colloquial).—A coward.

4. (prostitutes').—A girl that shirks her trade in bad weather.

**FUNKING-ROOM**, *subs.* (medical).—The room at the Royal College of Surgeons where the students collect on the last evening of their final during the addition of their marks, and whence each is summoned by an official announcing failure or success.

1841. *Punch*, I., p. 225, col. 2. On the top of a staircase he enters a room, wherein the partners of his misery are collected. It is a long, narrow apartment, commonly known as the FUNKING-ROOM.

**FUNKSTER**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—A coward; one that FUNKS (*q.v.*).

**FUNKY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Nervous; frightened; timid.

1845. NAVLOR, *Reynard the Fox*, 46. I do seem somewhat FUNKY.

1863. C. READE, *Hard Cash*, I., 143. On his retiring with twenty-five, scored in eight minutes, the remaining Barkingtons were less FUNKY, and made some fair scores.

1876. HINDLEY, *Life and Adventures of a Cheafjack*, p. 237. The second round commences with a little cautious sparring on both sides, the bouncing Elias looking very FUNKY.

1891. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 51. 'I'll noy FUNKY,' returned the Chinaman impressively.

**FUNNEL**, *subs.* (common).—The throat. For synonyms, see GUTTER ALLEY.

1712. BLACKMORE, *Creation*, Bk. VI  
Some the long FUNNEL'S curious mouth extend,  
Through which the ingested meats  
with ease descend.

**FUNNIMENT**, *subs.* (colloquial).—  
1. A joke, either practical or verbal.

2. (venery).—The female  
*pudendum*. For synonyms, see  
MONOSYLLABLE.

**FUNNY**, *subs.* (nautical).—A clinker-  
built, narrow boat for sculls.

1837. BARHAM, I. L., *Sir Rupert the Fearless*. Sprang up through the waves, popped him into his FUNNY. Which some others already had half-filled with money.

1882. *Field*, 28 Jan. The only obtainable craft, besides FUNNIES, pair-oars, and randans, were a couple of six-oars.

TO FEEL FUNNY, *verb. phr.*  
(common).—To be overtaken  
with (1) emotion, or (2) drink:  
*e.g.*, to wax amorous, or GET THE  
FLAVOUR (*q.v.*); to begin to be  
the worse for liquor.

**FUNNY BIT**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—  
The female *pudendum*.

**FUNNY BONE**, *subs.* (popular).—The  
elbow, with the passage of the  
ulnar nerve connecting the two  
bones: the extremity of the  
*humerus*.

1837. BARHAM, I. L. (*Blondie Jacke*). They have pull'd you down flat on your back! And they smack, and they thwack, Till your FUNNY BONES crack, As if you were stretch'd on the rack.

1853. THACKERAY, '*Shabby Genteel Story*,' ch. ix. He had merely received a blow on that part which anatomists call the FUNNY BONE.

1870. *Lowell Courier*. Thanks for your kind condolence; I would write A merry rhyme in answer if I might; But then—confound the fall!—the very stone That broke my *humerus* hurt my FUNNY BONE!

**FUNNY-MAN**, *subs.* (common).—A circus clown. Also a joker in private life.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *London, Lab. and Lond. Poor.*, III., p. 129. What I've earned as clown, or the FUNNY MAN.

**FUR**, *subs.* (venery).—The pubic hair. For synonyms, see FLEECE.

TO MAKE THE FUR FLY.—  
See FLY.

TO HAVE ONE'S FUR OUT,  
*verb. phr.* (Winchester College).  
—To be angry. For synonyms,  
see NAB THE RUST.

**FUR AND FEATHERS**, *subs. phr.*  
(sporting).—Generic for game.

**FUR-BELOW**, *subs.* (venery).—The female pubic hair. For synonyms, see FLEECE.

16(?) *Old Catch*. Adam 'caught Eve by the FUR-BELOW, And that's the oldest catch I know.

**FURIOSO**, *subs.* (old).—A blusterer; Ital., *furioso* = raving.

1692. HACKET. *Life of Archbishop Williams*, ii., p. 218. A violent man and a FURIOSO was deaf to all this.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Barker; blower; bobadil; bouncer; bulldozer (American); cacafogo; Captain Bounce; Captain Bluff; Captain Grand; Captain Hackam; cutter; fire-eater; hector; huff-cap; humguffin; gasser; gasman; mouth; mouth-almighty; pissfire; pump-thunder; ramper; roarer; ruffler; shitefire; slangwhanger; spitfire; swashbuckler; swasher; teaser; Timothy Tearcat.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Un avale-tout-cru* (popular: = an eat-all-he-kills); *un fendart* or *fendart*



(popular : = a cutter); *un avaleur de charrettes fereés* (popular); *un mata* (printers' : from *matador* = a bull-fighter); *un bousineur* (popular : *bousin* = uproar, shindy); *un bourreau de crânes* (military) : = a scull-destroyer; *un bœufier* (popular : = an ugly customer); *un mauvais gas* (familiar : from *garçon*); *un homme qui a l'air de vouloir tout avaler* (familiar : a man who looks as though he'd swallow the world); *un croquet* (popular).

SPANISH SYNONYMS. — *Perdonavidas*; *fierabras* (*fiera* = a wild beast); *bolarate*; *macareno caca-fuoco* (= a shitfire).

**FURK, FERK, FIRK, verb.** (Winchester College). — To expel; to send (as on a message); to drive away. Also TO FURK UP and FURK DOWN. [Old English *fercian*, High German *ferken*, Middle English to lead or send away.]

**FURMEN, subs.** (old). — Aldermen. From their fur-trimmed robes.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**FURMITY-FACED, adj. phr.** (old). — White-faced (FURMITY is described by GROSE as 'wheat boiled to a jelly'). To simmer like a FURMITY kitten (GROSE), see SIMPER.

**FURNISH, verb.** (common). — To fill out; to improve in strength and appearance.

**FURNITURE PICTURE, subs. phr.** (artists'). — A 'picture' sold not

as a piece of art but as a piece of upholstery, such things being turned out by the score, as pianos are, or three-legged stools; the worst and cheapest kind of POT-BOILER (*q.v.*).

**FURROW, subs.** (venery). Also CUPID'S (or the ONE-ENDED) FURROW, etc. — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. TO DRAW A STRAIGHT FURROW. See DRAW.

TO FALL IN THE FURROW, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To achieve emission.

TO FAIL (or DIE) IN THE FURROW, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To do a DRY-BOB (*q.v.*).

**FURRY TAIL, subs. phr.** (printers'). — A non-unionist; a RAT (*q.v.*). Specifically, a workman accepting employment at less than 'Society' wages. Cf., DUNG, FLINT, etc.

**FURTHER. I'LL SEE YOU FURTHER FIRST, phr.** (colloquial). — A denial. I'LL SOONER DIE FIRST (*q.v.*).

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 29. I gave a country lad 2d. to mind him (the donkey) in a green lane there. I wanted my own boy to do so, but he said, I'LL SEE YOU FURTHER FIRST. A London boy hates being by himself in a lone country part. He's afraid of being burked.

**FUR TRADE, subs. phr.** (old). — Barristers.

1839. REYNOLDS, *Pickwick Abroad*, ch. xxvi. Let nob's in the FUR TRADE hold their jaw, And let the jug be free.

**FURZE-BUSH, subs. phr.** (venery). The female pubic hair. For synonyms, see FLEECE.

**FUSSOCK**, and **FUSSOCKS**, *subs.* (old).—Opprobrious for a fat woman.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. **FUSSOCKS**, a meer **FUSSOCKS**, a Lazy Fat-Arsed Wench, a fat **FUSSOCKS**, a Flusom, Fat, Strapping Woman.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**FUST** (or **FUST OUT**), *verb.* (American).—To end in smoke; to go to waste; to end in nothing. *Cf.*, **FIZZLE**.

**FUSTIAN**, *subs.* and *adj.* (old).—I. Bombast; bad rhetoric; sound without sense: bombastic; ranting. Now accepted.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *2 Henry IV*, II., 4. Thrust him downstairs; I cannot endure such a **FUSTIAN** rascal.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night* II., 5. A **FUSTIAN** riddle.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, II., 3. And discourse **FUSTIAN** with one's own shadow.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. **FUSTIAN**-verse, verse in words of lofty sound and humble sense.

1828-45. HOOD, *Poems*, i., p. 105 (ed. 1846). The saints!—the bigots that in public spout, Spread phosphorous of zeal on scraps of **FUSTIAN**, And go like walking 'Lucifers' about These living bundles of combustion.

2. (common).—Wine; **WHITE FUSTIAN** = champagne; **RED FUSTIAN** = port.

1834. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, p. 51 (ed. 1864). I'm as dry as a sandbed-Famous wine this—beautiful tipple—better than all your red **FUSTIAN**. Ah, how poor Sir Piers used to like it!

**FUSTILARIAN**, *subs.* (old).—A low fellow; a common scoundrel.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *2 Henry IV.*, II., 1. Away, you scullion! you ram-

pallian! you **FUSTILARIAN**! I'll tickle your catastrophe.

**FUSTILUG** (or **FUSTILUGS**), *subs.* (old).—A piece of grossness, male or female; a coarse and dirty Blowzalinda; a foul slut; a fat stinkard.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Canting Crew*. **FUSTILUGGS**, a Fulsom, Beastly, Nasty Woman.

1739. JUNIUS (quoted in *Encly. Dict.*). You may daily see such **FUSTILUGS** walking in the streets, like so many tuns.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar Tongue*.

**FUTTER**, *verb.* (venery).—To copulate. Fr., *foutre*. [A coinage of Sir R. Burton's, who makes continual use of it in the *Thousand Nights and a Night*.] For synonyms, see **GREENS** and **RIDE**. Also **TO DO A FUTTER**.

1885. BURTON, *Thousand Nights*, II., 332. Eating and drinking and **FUTTERING** for a year of full twelve months.

1890. BURTON, *Priapeia*, Ep. xii. Thee, my girl, I shalt **FUTTER**.

**FUTURE**, **TO DEAL IN FUTURES**, *verb phr.* (Stock Exchange).—To speculate for a rise or fall.

1862. *Globe*, 1 Dec. He **DEALS IN FUTURES**, i.e., speculates in cotton with Stock Exchange folks, or speculates in securities.

**FUZZ**, *verb.* (old).—I. 'To shuffle cards minutely; also to change the pack.' [GROSE.]

2. (old).—To be, or to make, drunk.

1685. *Life of Amb. Wood*, 14 July. Came home well **FUZZ**.

**FUZZINESS**, *subs.* (old).—The condition of being in drink. Hence blurredness; incoherence; bewilderment.

**FUZZY**, *adj.* (common).—1. Drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED. Hence blurred (as a picture); tangled; incoherent or inconsequent.

1876. HINDLEY, *Life and Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 324. Her husband or any other man might have drunk six glasses, with no more hurt than just making him a little fuzzy.

2. (popular).—Rough; as in a FUZZY head; a FUZZY cloth; a FUZZY bit (= a full-grown wench); a FUZZY carpet; etc.

**FUZZY-WUZZY**, *subs.* (military). A Soudanese tribesman.

1890. RUDYARD KIPLING, *National Observer*, 8 Mar., p. 438, col. 1. So 'ere's to you Fuzzv-wuzzv And your 'ome in the Soudan, You're a pore benighted 'eathen but a first-class fighting man; And 'ere's to you Fuzzv-wuzzv with your 'ay-rick 'ead of 'air, You big, black bouncing beggar, for you bruk a British square.

**FYE-BUCK**, *subs.* (old).—A sixpence. For synonyms, *see* BENDER.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, II., 56. You give a shilling to buy a comb, for which he gives sixpence, so *works* you for another FYE-BUCK.

1885. *Household Words*, 20 June, p. 155. 'Buck' is most likely a corruption of FYE-BUCK, a slang name for sixpence, which is now almost, if not altogether, obsolete.

**FYLCHE**.—*See* FILCH.

**FYST**.—*See* FOIST.







**GAB**, *subs.* (vulgar).  
—1. Themouth;  
also **GOB**. For  
synonyms, *see*  
**POTATO-TRAP**.

1785. GROSE,  
*Dict. of the Vulgar*  
*Tongue*, s.v.

1785. BURNS, *Jolly Beggars*. And  
aye he gies the touzie drab The tither  
skelpin kiss; While she held up her greedy  
GAB, Just like an aumos dish.

1820. SCOTT, *The Abbot*, ch. xiv.  
'And now, my mates,' said the Abbot of  
Unreason, 'once again digut your GABS  
and be hushed—let us see if the Cock of  
Kennaguhair will fight or flee the pit.'

1890. *Rare Bits*, 12 Apr., p. 347.  
'Clap a stopper on your GAB and whack  
up, or I'll let 'er speak!'

2. (vulgar).—Talk; idle babble.  
Also **GABB**, **GABBER**, and **GABBLE**.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 389. Having  
no language among them but a confused  
GABBLE, which is neither well understood  
by themselves or others.

1811. POOLE, *Hamlet Travestied*, I.,  
3. Then hold your GAB, and hear what  
I've to tell.

1863. C. READE, *Hard Cash*, ch.  
xxxiv. 'Hush your GAB,' said Mr. Green,  
roughly.

1887. *Punch*, 10 Sept., p. 111.  
Gladstone's GAB about 'masses and  
classes' is all tommy rot.

*Verb* (vulgar: O. E., and now  
preserved in **GABBLE**).—To talk  
fluently; to talk brilliantly; to lie.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*  
1652. I GABBE nought, so have I joye or  
blis.

1402. [? T. OCCLEVE], *Letter of*  
*Cupid*, in Arber's *Garner*, vol. IV., p.  
59. A foul vice it is, of tongue to be  
light, For whoso mochil clappeth, gabbeth  
oft.

1601. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*,  
Act II., Sc. iii. *Mal*. . . Have you no  
wit, manners, nor honesty, but to GABBLE  
like tinkers at this time of night.

1663. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. I., ch.  
i., p. 5. Which made some think when he  
did GABBLE Th' had h·ard three Labourers  
of Babel.

1786. BURNS, *Earnest Cry and*  
*Prayer*, st. 10. But could I like Mont-  
gomeries fight, Or GAB like Boswell.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *Zeph*, ch. vii. An  
elderly clergyman . . . GABBLED the  
funeral service as though he were calling  
back an invoice at a draper's entering  
desk.

1887. *Punch*, 10 Sept., p. 111. Gals  
do like a chap as can GAB.

**GIFT OF THE GAB** (or **GOB**),  
*subs. phr.* (colloquial).—The gift  
of conversation; the talent for  
speech. Fr., *n'avoir pas sa langue*  
*dans sa poche*.

d. 1653. Z. BOYD, *Book of Job*, quoted  
in Brewer's *Phrase and Fable*, s.v., 'GAB.  
There was a good man named Job, Who  
lived in the land of Uz, He had a good  
gift of the gob.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant-  
ing Crew*. **GIFT OF THE GOB**, a wide,  
open Mouth; also a good Songster, or  
Singing-master.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. of the Vulgar*  
*Tongue*, s.v.

1820. SHELLEY, *Edipus Tyrannus*,  
Act I. You, Purganax, who have the  
**GIFT O' THE GAB**, Make them a solemn  
speech.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. xliii. And we'll have a big-wig, Charley: one that's got the greatest GIFT OF THE GAB: to carry on his defence.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., 250. People reckon me one of the best patterers in the trade. I'm reckoned to have the gift—that is, THE GIFT OF THE GAB.

1869. WHYTE-MELVILLE, *M. or N.*, p. 29. I've GOT THE GIFT OF THE GAB, I know, and I stick at nothing.

1870. *Lond. Figaro*, 18 Sept. 'Of all gifts possessed by man,' said George Stephenson, the engineer, to Sir William Follett, 'there is none like the GIFT OF THE GAB.'

1876. HINDLEY, *Life and Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 193. Others, although they have the GIFT OF THE GAB when they are on the ground, as soon as they mount the cart are dumbfounded.

TO BLOW THE GAB, *verb. phr.* (vulgar).—To inform; TO PEACH (*q.v.*). Also TO BLOW THE GAFF (*q.v.*).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1834. AINSWORTH *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. 5. Never BLOW THE GAB OF squeak.

TO FLASH THE GAB, *verb. phr.* (common).—TO SHOW OFF (*q.v.*) in talk; *cf.*, AIR ONE'S VOCABULARY.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 2. While his Lordship . . . that very great dab At the flowers of rhet'ric is FLASHING HIS GAB.

**GABBLE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. A gossip. Also GABBLER, GABBLE-GRINDER, GABBLE-MERCHANT, and GABBLE-MONGER.

2. (colloquial).—A voluble talker.

**GABBLE-MILL**, *subs.* (American).—1. The United States Congress. Also GABBLE-MANUFACTORY.

2. (common).—A pulpit. For synonyms, *see* HUMBOX.

3. (common).—The mouth. For synonyms, *see* POTATO-TRAP.

**GABLE**, *subs.* (common).—The head. Also GABLE-END. For synonyms, *see* CRUMPET.

**GABSTER**, *subs.* (common).—A voluble talker, whether eloquent or vain; one having the GIFT OF THE GAB (*q.v.*).

**GAB-STRING**.—*See* GOB-STRING.

**GABY** (also GABBEY and GABBY), *subs.* (common).—A fool; a babler; a boor. *Icl. gapi*=a foolish person, from *gapa*=to gape.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1856. T. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School Days*, pt. 1, ch. iii. Two boys, who stopped close by him, and one of whom, a fat GABY of a fellow, pointed at him and called him young 'mammy-sick.'

1859. H. KINGSLEY, *Geoffrey Hamlyn*, ch. ix. Don't stand laughing there like a great GABY.

1875. OUIDA, *Signa*, vol. I., ch. iv., p. 47. 'You have never dried your clothes, Bruno,' said his sister-in-law, 'What a GABY a man is without a wife!'

**GAD**, *subs.* (common).—An idle slattern. An abbreviation of GAD-ABOUT (*q.v.*).

*Intj.* (common).—An abbreviation of BY GAD! *Cf.* AGAD, EGAD—themselves corruptions of BY GOD, *Lit.*

ON THE GAD, *adv. phr.* (old).—I. On the spur of the moment.

1605. SHAKESPEARE, *Lear*, i., 2. All this is done UPON THE GAD.

2. (colloquial).—On the move, on the gossip.

1818. AUSTEN, *Persuasion*. I have no very good opinion of Mrs. Charles' nursery maid. . . . She is always UPON THE GAD.

3. (colloquial).—On the spree (especially of women); and, by implication, on the town.

TO GAD THE HOOF, *verb. phr.* (common).—To walk or go without shoes; TO PAD THE HOOF (*q.v.*). Also, more loosely, to walk or roam about.

1852. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assistant*, 3rd ed., p. 447. Going without shoes, GADDING THE HOOF.

**GADABOUT**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A trapesing gossip; as a housewife seldom seen at home, but very often at her neighbours' doors [From GAD=to wander, to stray (*Cf.*, *Lycidas*: 'the gadding vine')+ ABOUT.] Used also as an adjective; *e.g.*, 'a GAD-ABOUT hussey.'

**GADSO**, *subs.* (old) — The *penis*. Italian *cazzo*. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

*Intj.* (old: still literary and colloquial).—An interjection. [A relic of phallicism with which many popular oaths and exclamations have a direct connection, especially in Neo-Latin dialects. A Spaniard cries out, CARAJÓ! (=the member), or COJONES! (=the testicles); an Italian says CAZZO (the *penis*); while a Frenchman exclaims by the act itself, FOUTRE! The female equivalent, (COFFO with the Spaniard, CONNO with the Italian, CON with the Frenchman, and CUNT with ourselves), was, and is, more generally used as an expression of contempt, which is also the case with the testicles. (*Cf.*, *ante*, ALL BALLS!) Germanic oaths are profane rather than obscene; except, perhaps, in POTZ! and POTZTAUFEND! and the English

equivalent POX! which last is obsolete. See CATSO. [In Florio (*A Worlde of Wordes*, 1598), *Cazzo*= 'a man's privie member,' and *cazzo di mare*=a pintle fish; while *cazzica*= 'an interjection of admiration and affirming. What? Gad's me, Gad forfend, tush.']

1697. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, iii., i. *Sir?* GADSO! we are to consult about playing the devil to night.

1770. FOOTE, *Lame Lover*, i. Gadso! a little unlucky.

1838. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. iv. 'GADSO!' said the undertaker. . . 'that's just the very thing I wanted to speak to you about.'

**GADZOOKS!** *intj.* (old and colloquial).—A corruption of GADZO (*q.v.*).

**GAFF**, *subs.* (old).—I. A fair. '.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*, p. 32. The first thing they do at a GAFF is to look for a room clear of company.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. The drop coves maced the joskins at the GAFF; the ring-droppers cheated the countryman at the fair.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 22. We stopped at this place two days, waiting to attend the GAFF.

1823. JON. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., s.v. A fair is a GAFF as well as all the transactions enacted there.

2. (common).—A cheap, low music-hall or theatre; frequently PENNY-GAFF, *Cf.*, quot. 1823, sense 1. Also DOOKIE. Fr., *un beuglant* (= a low music-hall; *beugler*=to bellow); *un bouisbouis* (*boui*=brothel); *une guinche* (popular). See also quot. 1889.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., p. 46. They court for a time, going to raffies and GAFFS together, and then the affair is arranged.

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*, p. 68. A GAFF is a place where stage plays, according to the strict interpre-



tation of the term, may not be represented. The actors of a drama may not correspond in colloquy, only in pantomime; but the pieces brought out at the GAFF are seldom of an intricate character, and the not over-fastidious auditory are well content with an exhibition of dumb-show and gesture.

1870. *Orchestra*, 18 Feb. The absolute harm done by these GAFFS does not consist in the subjects represented.

1889. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S. vii., p. 395. I have often heard the British soldier make use of the word when speaking of the entertainment got up for his benefit in barracks.

3. (prison).—A hoax; an imposture. *Cf.*, *Fr.*, *gaffe*=joke, deceit.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iv., p. 312. I also saw that Jemmy's blowing up of me was all GAFF. He knew as well as I did the things left the shop all right.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 227. Can you put me up to this other GAFF.

4. (old sharpers').—A ring worn by the dealer. [From *gaffe*=a hook.]

5. (American cock-pit).—A steel spur.

6. (anglers')—A landing spear, barbed in the iron.

*Verb.* (old).—I. To toss for liquor. *See* GAFFING.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v.

2. (theatrical).—To play in a GAFF (*q.v.* sense 2).

TO BLOW THE GAFF, or GAB (*q.v.*), *verb. phr.* (common). To give information; to let out a secret. For synonyms, *see* PEACH.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. TO BLOW THE GAB (*cant*), to confess, or impeach a confederate.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xliii. One of the French officers, after he was taken prisoner, axed me how we

had managed to get the gun up there; but I wasn't going to BLOW THE GAFF.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. ii., p. 122. The prisoner, burning for revenge, quietly bides his time till the chief warder comes round, then asks to speak to him, and BLOWS THE GAFF.

1891. *Referee*, 8 Mar. Under sacred promise not to BLOW THE GAFF I was put up to the method.

GAFFER, *subs.* (old).—I. An old man; the masculine of GAMMER (*q.v.*). Also a title of address: *e.g.*, 'Good day, GAFFER!' *Cf.*, UNCLE and DADDY. Also (*see* quot. 1710), a husband.

1710. *Dame Hurdle's Letter* (quoted by NARES). My GAFFER only said he would inform himself as well as he could against next election, and keep a good conscience.

1714. GAY, *Shepherd's Week*. For GAFFER Treadwell told us, by-the-bye, Excessive sorrow is exceeding dry.

1842. TENNYSON, *The Goose*. Ran GAFFER, stumbled Gammer.

2. (common).—A master; an employer; a BOSS (*q.v.*); (athletic) a pedestrian trainer and 'farmer'; and (navvies') a gang-master or GANGER (*q.v.*).

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., iv., 123. In comes our GAFFER Underwood, And sits him on the bench.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dict.* (5th ed.) GAFFER (S.) a familiar word mostly used in the country for master.

1885. *Daily News*, 24 Jan., p. 3, c. 1. They go and work at fivepence, and some on 'em as low as threepence halfpenny, an hour; that's just half what we get, and the GAFFERS keep 'em on and sack us.

1888. *Sportsman*, 20 Dec. Comic enough were some of the stories 'Jemmy' told of his relations with 'the GAFFER.'

1889. *Broadside Ballad*, 'The Gaffers of the Gang.' We are the boys that can do the excavations, We are the lads for the 'atin' and the dhrinkin', With the ladies we are so fascinatin', Because we are the GAFFERS of the gang.



3. (old).—A toss-penny; a gambler with coins. From GAFFING (*q.v.*).

1828. JON BEE, *Living Picture of London*, p. 247. If the person calling for 'man' or 'woman' is not right or wrong at five guesses, neither of the GAFFERS win or lose, but go again.

*Verb.* (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

**GAFFING**, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1821. PIERCE EGAN, *Life in London*, p. 279. GAFFING was unfortunately for him introduced. *Ibid.* NOTE.—A mode of tossing for drinks, etc., in which three coins are placed in a hat, shaken up, and then thrown on the table. If the party to 'call' calls 'heads' (or 'tails') and all three coins are as he calls them, he wins; if not, he pays a settled amount towards drinks.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicancy, and Crime*, s.v.

**GAG**, *subs.* (common).—1. A joke; an invention; a hoax.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. GAG—a grand imposition upon the public; as a mountebank's professions, his cures, and his lottery-bags, are so many broad GAGS.

1871. *All the Year Round*, 18 Feb., p. 288. You won't bear malice now, will you? All GAG of mine, you know, about old Miss Ponsonby.

1885. *Daily News*, 16 May, p. 5, c. 2. 'The Mahdi sends you lies from Khartoum, and laughs when you believe them,' said a native, lately. We need not gratify the Mahdi by believing any bazaar-GAG he may circulate.

2. (theatrical).—Expressions interpolated by an actor in his part: especially such as can be repeated again and again in the course of performance. Certain plays, as *The Critic*, are recognised 'gag-pieces,' and in these the practice is accounted legitimate. Cf., *Hamlet*, iii., 2 :

'And let those, that play your clowns, say no more than is set down for them.' Cf., WHEEZE. Fr., *l'acocotte* (specifically additions to vocal scores). A typical example is the 'I believe you, my boy!' of the late Paul Bedford. In the quot. under 1851-61, it is probable that GAG = PATTERN (*q.v.*)

1841. *Punch*, i., p. 105. I shall do the liberal in the way of terms, and get up the GAG properly.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *London, Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., p. 148. When I go out I always do my own GAG, and I try to knock out something new.

1866. W. D. HOWELLS, *Venetian Life*, ch. v. . . . I have heard some very passable GAGS at the Marionette, but the real *commedia a braccio* no longer exists.

1889. *Globe*, 12 Oct., p. 4, c. 4. In a high-class music hall it is a rule that no song must be sung till it is read and signed by the manager, and this applies even to the GAG.

1890. *Fall Mall Gazette*, 5 Mar., p. 4, c. 3. Mr. Augustus Harris pointed out that if the clause were carried the penalty would, in many cases, be incurred twenty times in one scene, for actors and singers were continually introducing GAG into their business.

3. (American).—A common-wealth of players in which the profits are shared round. Cf., CONSCIENCE.

1847. DARLEY, *Drama in Pokerville*, p. 124. The artist . . . merely remarking that he had thought of a GAG which would bring them through, mounted a ladder, and disappeared.

4. (American).—A fool; i.e., a thing to laugh at. For synonyms, see CABBAGE- and BUFFLE-HEAD and SAMMY SOFT.

1838-40. HALIBURTON, *The Clock-maker*, p. 46. 'Sam,' says he, 'they tell me you broke down the other day in the House of Representatives and made a proper GAG of yourself.'

5. (Christ's Hospital).—Boiled fat beef. GAG-EATER=a term of reproach.

1813. LAMB, *Christ's Hospital*, in wks., p. 324 (ed. 1852). L. has recorded the repugnance of the school to GAGS, or the fat of fresh beef boiled; and sets it down to some superstition. . . . A GAG-EATER in our time was equivalent to a ghoul . . . and held in equal estimation.

6. (Winchester College).—An exercise (said to have been invented by Dr. Gabell) which consists in writing Latin criticisms on some celebrated piece, in a book sent in about once a month. In the Parts below Sixth Book and Senior Part, the GAGS consisted in historical analysis. [An abbreviation of 'gathering.']

1870. MANSFIELD, *School-life at Winchester College*, p. 108. From time to time, also, they had to write . . . an analysis of some historical work; these productions were called GATHERINGS (or GAGS).

*Verb, trs. and intrs.* (theatrical).

- 1. To speak GAGS (*q.v.*), sense 2. Fr., *cascader*.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, III., 149. He has to GAG, that is, to make up words.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xxxix. The same vocalist GAGS in the regular business like a man inspired.

1883. *Referee*, 15 April, p. 3, c. 1. Toole . . . cannot repress a tendency to GAG and to introduce more than is set down for him by the author.

2. (old).—To hoax; to puff.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, II., 154. Having discovered the weak side of him he means to GAG.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, etc., s.v. A showman cries 'Walk in, ladies and gentlemen, they're all alive, but the spectators soon perceive 'tis all stuff, reproach Mr. Merryman, and he, in excuse, swears he said 'they were' and not 'are alive.' He thus GAGS the public.

1876. HINDLEY, *Life and Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 325. Then they GAG the thing up, and send their bills out about the immense cost of scenery and dresses, and other expenses they are at, etc.

3. (thieves').—To inform; to ROUND ON (*q.v.*); also to BLOW THE GAG. Cf., GAFF, GAB, etc. For synonyms, see PEACH.

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 28 Mar. She . . . besought them with (crocodile) tears not to GAG on them, in other words not to give information to the police.

ON THE HIGH GAG., *adv. phr.* (old).—On the whisper; telling secrets; cf., *verb*, sense 3.

1823. KENT, *The Modern Flash Dict.*, s.v.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, etc., s.v.

ON THE LOW GAG, *adv. phr.* (old).—On the last runs of beggary, ill-luck, or despair.

1823. KENT, *The Modern Flash Dict.*, s.v.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *The Sinks of London*, etc., s.v.

TO STRIKE THE GAG, *verb. phr.* (old).—To cease from chaffing.

1830. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* (ed. 1889), p. 43. 'A clever device,' replied Jonathan; 'but it won't serve your turn. Let us pass, sir. STRIKE THE GAG, Blueskin.'

GAGE (GAUGE or GAG), *subs.* (old).

- 1. A quart pot (*i.e.*, a measure). Also a drink or GO (*q.v.*).

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. A GAGE, a quart pot.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GAGE, a quart pot.

1622. J. FLETCHER, *Beggars Bush*. I crown thy nab with a GAGE of benbouse.

1656. BROOME, *Jovial Crew*, Act ii., I bowse no lage, but a whole GAGE Of this I bowse to you.

1690. B. E. *New Dict. of the Cant. Crew*. GAGE, *c.* A pot or pipe. Tip me a GAGE, *c.* give me a pot, or pipe.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 12. GAGE, a pot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GAGE, a quart pot, also a pint (cant).

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 40. We drank our GAUGE and parted good friends.

2. (18th century).—A chamber-pot.

3. (old).—A pipe.

1690. B. E., *New Dict. of the Cant. Crew* (See quot. 1690 under sense 1).

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.), s.v.

1834. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, Bk. III., ch. v. In the mean time, tip me a GAGE of fogus, Jerry.

4. (American).—A man. For synonyms, see COVE.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum or Rogue's Lexicon*. Deck the GAGE, see the man.

GAGERS, *subs.* (American).—The eyes. For synonyms, see GLIMS.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

GAGGA, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.). Cheats who by sham pretences and wonderful stories of their sufferings impose on the credulity of good people.

GAGGER, *subs.* (theatrical).—A player who deals in GAGS (*q.v.*), sense 2. Also GAGGIST, GAG-MASTER, and GAGSTER.

1841. *Punch*, Vol. I., p. 169. Men with 'swallows' like Thames tunnels, in fact accomplished GAGGERS and unrivalled 'wiry watchers.'

1887. BURNAND and A'BECKETT in *Fortn. Review*, April, p. 548. Robson . . . was an inveterate GAGGER.

1890. *Globe*, 3 March, p. 1, c. 4. The low comedy was much toned down . . . In other words, the GAGGERS were gagged.

GAGGERY, *subs.* (theatrical).—The practice of GAGGING (*q.v.*), sense 3.

GAGGING, *subs.* (old).—1. BLUFF (*q.v.*); specifically, BUNCO-STEERING (*q.v.*), the art of talking over and persuading a stranger that he is an old acquaintance. Cf., GAG, *verb.*, sense 2.

1828. G. SMEATON, *Doings in London*, p. 28. One of the modes of raising money, well known in town by the flash name of GAGGING, has been practised of late to a considerable extent on simple countrymen, who are strangers to the 'ways of town.'

2. (cabmen's).—Loitering about for 'fares'; 'crawling.'

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. III., p. 366. The means used are GAGGING, that is to say, driving about and loitering in the thorough-fares for jobs.

3. (theatrical).—Dealing in GAGS (*q.v.*), sense 1. Also as *ppl. adj.*

1883. *The Echo*, 5 Jan., p. 2, c. 3. A protest, by no means unneeded, against the insolence or ignorance of some playwrights, and GAGGING actors.

1889. *Answers*, 27 July, p. 143, c. 2. GAGGING is a thing about which the public know little.

GAGGLER'S COACH, *subs. phr.* (old).—A hurdle.

1823. KENT, *Modern Flash Dict.*, s.v.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London* s.v.

GAIL, *subs.* (old).—A horse. For synonyms, see PRAD.



**GAILY - LIKE**, *adj.* (American). — Showy; expensive: BANG-UP (*q.v.*).

1872. CLEMENS (Mark Twain), *Undertaker's Chat*. Now, you know how difficult it is to roust out such a GAILY-LIKE thing as that in a little one-horse town like this.

**GAIN-PAIN**, *subs.* (old).—A sword; specifically, in the Middle Ages, that of a hired soldier. [From Fr., *gagner* = to gain + *pain* = bread. Cf., BREADWINNER (prostitutes') and POTBOILER (artists').] For synonyms, see CHEESE-TOASTER and POKER.

**GAIT**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Walk in life; profession; mode of making a living; GAME (*q.v.*).

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*. 'I say, Tim, what's your GAIT now?' 'Why, you see, I'm on the crack' (burglary).

**GAITERS**, *subs.* (American colloquial).—Half boots; shoes.

**GAL**, *subs.* (common).—1. A girl; a servant-maid; a sweetheart. BEST GIRL=favourite flame.

2. (common).—A prostitute. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., p. 535. Upon the most trivial offence in this respect, or on the suspicion of an offence, the GALS are sure to be beaten cruelly and savagely by their 'chaps.'

3. (American).—A female rough.

**GALANEY**. See GALENY.

**GALANTY** (GALLANTY or GALANTEE) SHOW, *subs. phr.* (common).—A shadow pantomime: silhouettes shown on a transparency or thrown on a white sheet by a magic lantern. Specifi-

cally, the former. See PUNCH AND JUDY.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. III., p. 81. The GALANTEE show don't answer, because magic lanterns are so cheap in the shops.

1884. Cassell's *Technical Educator*, pt. 10, p. 244. That reminiscence of the nursery, the GALANTY SHOW.

1888. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S. v., p. 265. A flourish on the panpipes and a rumble on the drum was followed by the cry, GALANTY-SHOW!

**GAL-BOY**, *subs.* (American).—A romp; a TOM-BOY (*q.v.*).

**GALEN**, *subs.* (common).—An apothecary. For synonyms, see GALLIPOT.

**GALENA**, *subs.* (American).—Salt pork. [From Galen, Ill., a chief hog-raising and pork-packing centre].

**GALENY** (or GALANY), *subs.* (old).—The domestic hen; now (West of England) a Guinea fowl. [Latin, *gallina*]. For synonyms, see CACKLING-CHEAT.

1887. *Temple Bar*, Mar., p. 333. It's a sin to think of the money you'd be spending on girls and things as don't know a hen's egg from a GALEENY'S.

**GALIMAUFREY**, *subs.* (old).—1. A medley; a jumble; a chaos of differences. [Fr., *gallimaufree*=a hash].

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse*, in wks., II., 93. Coblers, Tinkers, Fencers, none escapt them, but they mingled them all on one GALLIMAUFREY of glory.

1592. JOHN DAY, *Blind Beggar*, Act iv., Sc. 1, p. 75. Can. Let me be torn into mammoocks with wilde Bears if I make not a GALLEMAUFREY of thy heart and keep thy Skull for my quaffing bowl.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, Act iv., Sc. 4. And they have a dance which the wenches say is a GALLIMAUFREY of gambols, because they are not in't.

1690. DURFEY, *Collin's Walk*, ch. II., p. 58. But, like thy Tribe of canting Widgeons, A GALLIMAUFREY of Religions.



1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, i., 207. A compound of *Player, Soldier, Stroller, Sailor, and Tinker!* An odd GALLIMAUFRY!

1860. HALIBURTON (Sam Slick), *The Season Ticket*, No. 7. This portion of my journal, which includes a variety of topics and anecdotes, some substantial like solid meat, some savoury as spicy vegetable ingredients, and some fragments to swell the bulk, which, though not valuable as materials, help to compound the GALLIMAUFRY.

2. (old).--A hodge-podge of scraps and leavings.

1724. COLES, *Eng. Dict.*; 1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*; 1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*; 1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*.

3. A mistress.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives*, ii., 1. He loves thy GALLYMAUFRY; Ford, perpend.

4. (venery).--The female *pu-dendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

GALL, *subs.* (common).--Effrontery; CHEEK (*q.v.*); BRASS (*q.v.*); e.g., 'Ain't he got a GALL on him?'

1789. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.), s.v. His GALL is not yet broken, a saying used in prisons of a man just brought in who appears melancholy and dejected. [*i.e.*, 'He is not yet embittered enough to care for nothing, and meet everything with a front of brass.']

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

a 1891. *New York Sun* (quoted in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*, s.v.). 'What do you think he had the GALL to do to-day?' Brown: 'He has the GALL to do anything.' Dumley: 'He asked me to drink with him; but he'll never repeat the impudence.'

GALLANT, *subs.* (old).--A DANDY (*q.v.*); a ladies' man; a lover; a cuckold-maker, whether *in posse* or *in esse* (Shakespeare).

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives*, ii. One that is well-nigh worn to pieces with age to show himself a young GALLANT!

1598. SHAKESPEARE, i *Henry IV.*, ii., 4. GALLANTS, lads, boys, hearts of gold, all the titles of good fellowship come to you.

1663. DRYDEN, *The Wild Gallant* [Title.]

1690. B.E., *A New Dict.* GALLANT a very fine man; also a Man of Metal, or a brave Fellow; also one that Courts, or keeps, or is Kept by, a Mistress.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., iv., 110 There's never a GALLANT but sat at her hand.

1751-4. JORTIN, *Eccles. Hist.* (quoted in *Encyclopaedic Dict.*). As to Theodora, they who had been her GALLANTS when she was an actress, related that demons, or nocturnal spirits, had often driven them away to lie with her themselves.

*Adj.* (old). -- (1). Valiant  
(2) showy; (3) amorous.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 40. O London is a fine town, and a GALLANT city.

*Verb.* (old).--To sweetheart; to squire; to escort; to pursue or to enjoy.

TO GALLANT A FAN. *verb. phr.* (old). -- To break with design, to afford an opportunity of presenting a better. -- B.E. (1690).

GALLANT FIFTIETH, *subs. phr.* (military).--The Fiftieth Foot. [For its share in Vimiera, 1808.] Also, BLIND HALF HUNDRED (*q.v.*); and DIRTY HALF HUNDRED (*q.v.*).

GALLANTRY, *subs.* (1). SPARKISHNESS (*q.v.*); dandyism; (2) the habit, or pursuit, of the sexual favour. A LIFE OF GALLANTRY = a life devoted to the other sex.

**GALLERY**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—A commoner bedroom. [From a tradition of GALLERIES in Commoners.] See GALLERY-NYMPS.

TO PLAY TO THE GALLERY, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To act so as to win the applause of the vulgar: *i.e.*, to abandon distinction and art for coarseness of means and cheapness of effect. Said indifferently of anyone in any profession who exerts himself to win the suffrages of the mob; as a political demagogue, a 'popular' preacher, a 'fashionable' painter, and so on.

1872. *Standard*, 23 Oct. 'New York Correspondence.' His dispatches were, indeed, too long and too swelling in phrase; for herein he was always PLAYING TO THE GALLERIES.

Hence, GALLERY-HIT, SHOT, STROKE, *etc.*—a touch designed for, and exclusively addressed to, the non-critical.

TO PLAY THE GALLERY, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To make an audience; to applaud.

1870. *Echo*, 23 July, p. 5, c. 4. He seemed altogether ajovial, amusing sort of fellow, and as we were close by him, and constantly called in to PLAY THE GALLERY to his witty remarks, we asked him, when his friends left him, to join our party.

**GALLERY NYMPH**, *subs. phr.* (Winchester College).—A housemaid. See GALLERY.

**GALLEY—PUT A BRASS GALLEY DOWN YOUR BACK**, *verb. phr.* (printers').—An admonition to appear before a principal; implying that the galley will serve as a screen.

**GALLEY-FOIST**, *subs.* (old).—The state barge, used by the Lord

Mayor when he was sworn in at Westminster.

1609. BEN JONSON, *Silent Woman*, iv., 2. Out of my doores, you sons of noise and tumult, begot on an ill May day, or when the GALLEYFOIST is aloate to Westminster.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GALLEY - GROWLER** or **-STOKER**, *subs.* (nautical).—A loafer; a MALINGERER (*q.v.*); a GRUMBLE-GUTS (*q.v.*).

**GALLEY-HALFPENNY**, *subs.* (old).—A base coin, *tempus* Henry IV. [So called because it was commonly imported in the Genoese galleys. See Leake, *English Money*, p. 129; Ruding, *Annals of Coinage*, i., 250; and Stow, *Survey* (ed. 1842) p. 50.]

**GALLEY-SLAVE**, *subs.* (printers').—A compositor. [From the oblong tray whereon the matter from the composing stick is arranged in column or page.] For synonyms, see DONKEY.

1683. MOXON, s.v.

**GALLEYWEST**, *adj.* or *adv.* (American).—An indefinite superlative. Cf., ABOUT-EAST.

1884. CLEMENS, (M. Twain) *Huck Finn*, xxxvii., 382. Then she grabbed up the basket and slammed it across the house, and knocked the cat GALLEYWEST.

1887. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Mocassin* (quoted in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*). I'll be darned if this establishment of yours, Hunse, don't knock any one of them GALLEYWEST!—GALLEYWEST, sir, that's what it does.

**GALLEY-YARN** (OR NEWS), *subs. phr.* (nautical).—A lying story; a swindle or TAKE-IN (*q.v.*). Frequently abbreviated to 'G.Y.'

1884. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Admiral Guinea*, iii., 4. What? lantern and cutlass yours; you the one that knew the house; you the one that saw; you the one overtaken and denounced; and you spin me a GALLEY-YARN like that.

**GALLIED**, *ptl. adj.* (old). — 'Harried; vexed; over-fatigued; perhaps like a galley-slave' (GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.). In Australia, frightened.

**GALLINIPPER**, *subs.* (West Indian). — A large mosquito.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear*, etc., p. 119. In the summer time the lakes and snakes . . . musketoes and GALLINIPPERS, buffalo gnats and sandflies . . . prevented he Injins from gwine through the country.

1888. *Lippincott's Magazine*. I thought the GALLINIPPERS would fly away with me before the seed ticks had sucked all my blood.

**GALLIPOT**, *subs.* (common). — An apothecary.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cringle's Log*, ch. xiv. In truth, sir, I thought our surgeon would be of more use than any outlandish GALLIPOT that you could carry back.

1848. THACKERAY, *Book of Snobs*, ch. xxvii. 'Half a-dozen little GALLIPOTS,' interposed Miss Wirt.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Bolus; bum - tender; clyster - giver; clyster-pipe; croaker; crocus; drugs; Ollapod (from a creation of the Younger Coleman's); gagemonger; Galen (from the great physician); jakes-provider; pill-box; pill-merchant; pills; squirt; salts-and-senna; squire of the pot.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Un mirancu* (obsolete: a play on *mir* in *cul*, respecting which *cf.*, Béralde, in Molière, *Malade Imaginaire*: '*On voit bien que vous n'avez pas accoutumé de parler à des visages*'); *un limonadier de postérieurs* (popular: *cf.*, 'bum-tender'; *un flûtencul* (common); *un insinuant* (popular: one who 'insinuates' the clyster-pipe).

GERMAN SYNONYMS. — *Rokeach*, *Raukeach*, or *Raukack* (from the Hebrew).

**GALLIVANT**, *verb.* (colloquial). — 1. To gad about with, or after, one of the other sex; to play the gallant; to 'do the agreeable.'

1838. DICKENS, *Nicholas Nickleby*, ch. lxiv. You were out all day yesterday, and GALLIVANTING somewhere, I know.

1862. H. BEECHER STOWE, in *The Independent*, 27 Feb. What business had he to flirt and GALLIVANT all summer with Sally Kittridge?

1886. HAWLEY SMART, *Struck Down*, xi. The ramparts is a great place for GALLIVANTING.

1863. H. KINGSLEY, *Austin Elliot*, i., 112. It's them gals, Mr. Austin. Come in afore she sees you, else she'll not be at home. She is GALLIVANTING in the paddock with Captain Hertford.

2. (colloquial). — To TRAPES (*g.v.*); to fuss; to bustle about.

1850. *Boston Post*, 10 Dec. Senator Seward is GALLIVANTING gaily about Europe. Now at Compiègne, saying soft things to the Empress and studying despotism, now treading the battle-field of Waterloo, then back at Paris, and so on.

1871. C. D. WARNER, *My Summer in a Garden*. More than half the Lima beans, though on the most attractive sort of poles, which budded like Aaron's rod, went GALIVANTING off to the neighboring grape trellis.

1848. RUXTON, *Far West*, p. 145. The three remaining brothers were absent from the Mission . . . Fray Jose, GALLIVANTING at Pueblo de los Angeles.

1863. NORTON, *Lost and Saved*, p. 255. A pretty story, if, when her services were most wanted by the person who paid for them, she was to be gadding and GALIVANTING after friends of her own.

1865. M. E. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. x. A pretty thing it would have been if your pa had come all the way from India to find his only daughter GALLIVANTING at a theatre.

1870. *London Figaro*, 6 Dec. You're never content but when you're GALAVANTING about somewhere or other.



**GALLIVATE**, *verb* (American).—To frisk; to 'figure about'; *cf.* GALLIVANT.

**GALLON**. WHAT'S A GALLON OF RUM AMONG ONE? *phr.* (American).—The retort sarcastic; applied, *e.g.*, to those with 'eyes too big for their stomach'; to disproportionate ideas of the fitness of things, and so forth.

**GALLON DISTEMPER**, *subs. phr.* (common).—I. Delirium tremens; (2.) the lighter after-effects of drinking.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—(1) For the former, barrel-fever; black-dog; blue-devils; blue Johnnies (Australian); B. J's (*idem.*); blues; bottle-ache; D. T.; horrors; jim-jams; jumps; pink-spiders; quart-mania; rams; rats; shakes; snakes in the boots; trembles; triangles; uglies.

2. For the latter: a head; hot-coppers; a mouth; a touch of the brewer; a sore head (Scots).

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Avoir mal aux cheveux* (familiar = the hair-ache); *les papillons noirs* (*Cf.*, pink spiders; also = hypochondria); *avoir fumé dans une pipe neuve* (= sick of a new clay).

**GALLOPER**, *subs.* (old).—I. A blood horse; a hunter.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. The toby gill clapped his bleeders to his GALLOPER and tipped the straps the double.

2. (military).—An aide-de-camp.

**GALLOW-GRASS**, *subs. phr.* (old).—Hemp. [*i.e.*, halters in the rough.]

1578. LYTE, *Trans. of Dodoens History of Planies*, fol. 72. Hempe is called in . . . English, Neckweede, and GALLOWGRASS.

**GALLOWs**, *subs.* (old).—I. A rascal; a wretch deserving the rope.

1594. SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour's Lost*, v., 2. A shrewd unhappy GALLOWs too.

1754. B. MARTIN, *Eng. Dict.* (and *ed.*) s.v. = a wicked rascal.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*. (To *Oliver*). Now, young GALLOWs.

1838. JAS. GRANT, *Sketches in London*, ch. ii., p. 58. Blow me tight, young GALLOWs, if I don't pound your ribs to powder!

2. (common: generally *in. pl.* = GALLOWSES).—A pair of braces

1835. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 1 S., ch. xv. Chock-full of spring, like the wire end of a bran new pair of trouser GALLOWSES.

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 168. If I wouldn't spile his picter bust my boots and GALLOWSES.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. 1., p. 431. The braces, which in some parts of the country are called 'GALLOWSES.'

c. 1852. *Traits of American Humor*, p. 58. Hole on, dod drot you, wait till I unbutton my GALLOWSES.

1864. JAMES, etc, *Italian-English Dict.* GALLOWSES, *batilla*.

1883. G. A. S[ALA], in *Ill. Lond. News*, Sept. 22, p. 275, c. 1. Braces (which, when I was young, used, in the north of England, to be known by the expressive name of GALLOWSES.)

*Adv.* (old).—Excessively; same as BLOODY, BLEEDING, (*q.v.*), etc. (*As adj.*) great; uncommon; real.

c. 1551. L. SHEPHERD, *John Bon* in *Arber's Garner*, Vol. IV., p. 109. Ye, are much bound to God for such a spittle holiness. A GALLOWs gift!

1789. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 120. Some they pattered flash with GALLOWs fun and joking.

1827. EGAN, *Anecdotes of the Twif*, etc., p. 44. Then your blown will wax GALLOWs haughty! [Also quoted in notes to *Don Juan*.]



1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 293. (ed. 1854). Ah, Dame Lobkin, if so be as our little Paul vas a vith you, it would be a GALLOWs comfort to you in your latter hend!

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, III., 90. I'll be smothered if I'm going to look down that GALLOWs long chimney.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. xli. And the pleece come in, and got GALLUS well kicked about the head.

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*, p. 244. Put it on your face so GALLUS thick that the devil himself won't see through it.

**GALLOWs-BIRD** (also NEWGATE-BIRD), *subs.* (common).—I. A son of the rope; an habitual criminal; a vagabond or scoundrel, old or young; a crack-rope or wag-halter (COTGRAVE; a gallows-clapper (FLORIO). Fr., *gibier de Cayenne*, or *de potence*.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. One that deserves hanging.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xi. That very GALLOWs-BIRD were enough to corrupt a whole ante-chamber of pages.

2. (common).—A corpse on, or from, the gallows.

1861. READE, *Cloister and Hearth*, ch. xxviii. I ne'er minced (dissected) ape nor GALLOWs-BIRD.

**GALLOWs-FACED**, *adj.* (old).—Evil-looking; hang-dog. Also GALLOWs-LOOKING.

1766. H. BROOKE, *Fool of Quality*, ii. 16. Art thou there, thou rogue, thou hang-dog, thou GALLOWs-FACED vagabond?

1768. GOLDSMITH, *Good-natured Man*, Act v. Hold him fast, he has the GALLOWs in his FACE.

1837. BARHAM, I. L. (*Misadv. at Margate*). A little GALLOWs-LOOKING chap—dear me! what could he mean?

**GALLOWs-MINDED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Criminal in habit and idea; also, evil-hearted.

**GALLOWsNESS**, *subs.* (old).—Rascality; recklessness; mischievousness.

1859. G. ELIOT, *Adam Bede*, ch. vi. I never knew your equal for GALLOWsNESS.

**GALLOWs-RIPE**, *adj.* (old).—Ripe for the rope.

1837. CARLYLE, *French Revolution*, Pt. II., bk. v., ch. iii. Loose again, as one not yet GALLOWs-RIPE.

**GALLUS**.—See GALLOWs.

**GALLY-FOIST**.—See GALLEY-FOIST.

**GALLSLOPES**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—Breeches. For synonyms, see KICKs.

**GALOOT** (also GALLOOT and GEE-LOOT), *subs.* (general).—A man (sometimes in contempt); also (in America) a worthless fellow (or thing, see quot. 1888); a rowdy; a CAD (*q.v.*).

1835. MARRYAT, *Jacob Faithful*, ch. xxxiv. Four greater GALLOOTS were never picked up, but never mind that.

1869. S. L. CLEMENS (Mark Twain) *Innocents at Home*, p. 22. He could lam any GALOOT of his inches in America.

1871. JOHN HAY, *Jim Bludso*. I'll hold her nozzle agin the bank Till the last GALOOT's ashore.

1885. *Saturday Review*, Feb. 7, p. 167. I'll never draw a revolver on a man again as long as I live.' . . . 'Guess I'll go for the GALOOT with a two-scatter shoot-gun.

1888. *New York Tribune*, May 16. It is better to have a Carrot for a President than a dead beat for a son-in-law. In this way we again score a live beat on the GALOOT.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 137. 'My dear boy, I may be a GALOOT about literature, but you'll always be an outsider in business.

ON THE GAY GALOOT, *adv. phr.* (common).—On the spree,

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 3. I'm off on THE GAY GALOOT somewhere.

**GALOPTIOUS** or **GALUPTIOUS**, *adj.* (popular).—Delightful; a general superlative.

1887. *Judy*, 21 Sept., p. 140. Four young ladies represented the GALOPSHUS sum of 20,000,000 dollars.

**GAFORE** (also **GALFORE** and **GOFORE**), *adv.* (old; now recognised).—In abundance; plenty. [Irish and Gaelic *go leor* = in plenty.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 14. GAFORE of alcohol to ratify the trade.

1856. C. READE, *Never Too Late*, ch. lx. He found rogues GAFORE, and evenspirits that wished the friends ill.

1891. *Licensed Vic. Mirror*, 30 Jan., p. 1, c. 1. Of chit-chat this week we have GAFORE, and the difficulty is how to sift the wheat from the chaff.

**GALUMPH**, *verb.* (American).—To bump along (Onomatopœia).

1888. *New York World*, 13 May. The young man tackled the driver of a green bobtail car that GALUMPHED through Lewis Street at a high rate of speed.

**GALVANISED YANKEE**, *subs. phr.* (American Civil War).—A GREYBACK (*q.v.*) who took the oath to the North and served in its armies.

**GAM**, *subs.* (thieves').—I. Pluck; gameness.

1888. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, 8 Dec., p. 260. I'm not so sure about his lack of cunnin', speed, or GAM.

2. (American thieves')—Stealing (MATSELL, 1859).

*Verb.* (American thieves').—I. To steal.

2. (American).—To engage in social intercourse; to make a call; to have a chat. *See* GAMMING.

**GAMALIEL**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A pedant; a person curious of the letter and the form: *e.g.*, 'these GAMALIELS of the theory'=these ultra-puritans, to whom the spirit is nothing.

**GAMARUCHE**, *subs.* (venery).—*See* CUNNILINGIST and COCK-TEASER. *Verb.* (venery).—To irrumate; to BAG-PIPE (*q.v.*). Also to CUNNILINGE (*q.v.*). *Fr.*, *gamahucher*.

**GAMB** (or **GAM**), *subs.* (old).—A leg. In use also in this sense as an heraldic term. [It., *gambe*; *Fr.*, *jambe*; probably through *Lingua Franca*.] For synonyms, *see* DRUMSTICKS and PINS.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 143. If a man has bow legs, he has queer GAMS, GAMS being cant for legs.

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd ed.), s.v.

1819. MOORE, *Memorial*, p. 61. Back to his home, with tottering GAMS.

1887. HENLEY, *Villon's Good Night*. At you I merely lift my GAM.

[To FLUTTER A GAM=to dance; TO LIFT A GAM=to break wind; TO GAM IT=to walk; to run away; TO LEG IT (*q.v.*).]

**GAMBLE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A venture: a FLUTTER (*q.v.*).

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 250. And you know the Flying Scud was the biggest GAMBLE of the crowd.

**GAMBLER**, *subs.* (old, now recognised). *See* quotes.

1778. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.* GAMBLER, a guinea-dropper; one class of sharpers.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GAMBLER, a sharper; a tricking gamester.

1816. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.* (11th ed.). GAMBLER, a cant word, I suppose. A knave whose practice it is to invite the unwary to game and cheat them.

1890. *Cassell's Enc. Dict.* GAMBLER, one given to playing for a stake.

**GAMBOL**, *subs.* (booking clerks'). A railway ticket.

1882. *Daily News*, 6 Sept., p. 2, c. 5. . . . Mr. Chance [the magistrate] asked what GAMBOLS meant. The inspector said doubtless the railway tickets.

**GAM-CASES**, *subs.* (old). Stockings (PARKER, *Life's Painter*). [From GAM=leg + CASE.]

**GAME**, *subs.* (old).—1. The proceeds of a robbery; SWAG (*q.v.*).

1676. *Warning for Housekeepers*. Song. When that we have bit the bloe, we carry away the GAME.

2. (old).—A company of whores. A GAME - PULLET = a young prostitute, or a girl inclined to lechery; *cf.*, *adj.*, sense 8.

1690. B.E., *New Dictionary*, s.v. . . also a Bawdy house, lewd women.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GAME . . . Mother, have you any GAME, Mother, have you any girls?

3. (old).—A gull; a sim-pleton. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1690. B. E., *New Dictionary*. GAME, *c.* Bubbles drawn in to be cheated.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

4. (thieves').—Specifically, THE GAME = thieving; also (nautical), slave trading; and (venery), the practice of copulation (*e.g.*, good at THE GAME = an expert and vigorous bedfellow. *Cf.*, SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus*, iv., 5, 'Spoils of opportunity, daughters of the GAME'). In quot. (1639) it would seem that HEN OF THE GAME = a shrew, a fighting woman.

1639-61. *Rump*, ii., 185. 'Free Parliament Litany.' From a dunghill Cock and a HEN OF THE GAME.

1640. *Ladies' Parliament*. Stamford she is for THE GAME, She saies her husband

is to blame, For her part she loves a foole, If he hath a good toole.

1668. ETHEREDGE, *She Would if She Could*, i., 1. A gentleman should not have gone out of his chambers but some civil officer of the GAME or other would have . . . given him notice where he might have had a course or two in the afternoon.

17(?) BURNS, *Merry Muses*, 'Jenny Macraw' (old song). Jenny Macraw was a bird of THE GAME.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime, Glossary*. On THE GAME—thieving.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 263. Whether the GAME got stale, or Peter became honest, is beyond the purport of my communication to settle.

1852. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assist.* (3rd ed.), p. 444, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum or Rogue's Lexicon*, s. v. The particular line of rascality the rogue is engaged in; thieving; cheating.

1860. *Chambers' Journal*, Vol. 13, p. 281. I asked him if he meant by a trading voyage, the GAME.

5. (colloquial).—A source of amusement; a LARK (*q.v.*): a BARNEY (*q.v.*); as, *e.g.*, It was such a GAME!

6. (colloquial).—A design; trick; object; line of conduct: *e.g.*, What's your little GAME = What are you after? Also, None of your little GAMES! = None of your tricks! *See* HIGH OLD GAME.

1854. WHYTE MELVILLE, *General Bounce*, ch. ix. *Honesty*, indeed! if honesty's the GAME, you've a right to your share, what Mrs. Kettering intended you should have.

1857. DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *The Vulg. Tongue*, p. 9. GAME n. Intention. 'What's your GAME?' or, 'What are you up to?' (very generally used).

1870. *Standard*, 27 Sept. If we accept the meaner GAME which the *Times* indicates for us, it can only be by deliberate choice.

1879. JUSTIN MCCARTHY, *Donna Quixote*, ch. xiii. Come, what's your little GAME?



1833. EDW. E. MORRIS, in *Longman's Mag.*, June, p. 176. A youth, who left England, and then carried on the same GAME in Australia.

1889. *Standard*, 1 May, p. 5, c. 1. The 'GAME of law and order' is not up, in Paris.

1890. *Punch*, 30 Aug., p. 97. Mug's GAME! They'll soon find as the Marsters ain't going to be worried and welched.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 46. She knew how to work THE GAME of fascination right.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 349. 'It was the thing in your times, that's right enough; but you're old now, and THE GAME's up.

*Adj.* (old).—1. Plucky; enduring; full of spirit and BOTTOM (*q.v.*). [Cock-pit and pugilists'. The word may be said to have passed into the language with the rise to renown of Harry Pearce, surnamed the GAME CHICKEN.]

1747. CAPT. GODFREY, *Science of Defence*, p. 64. Smallwood (a boxer) is thorough GAME, with judgment equal to any, and superior to most.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 57. Pitying raised from earth the GAME old man.

1821. P. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* (ed. 1891), p. 38. Tom, however, was too GAME to acknowledge any sort of alarm at this slight visitation.

1823. E. KENT, *Mod. Flash Dict.* GAME, s.v. Sturdy, hardy, hardened.

1827. REYNOLDS, *Peter Corcoran, The Fancy*. 'The Field of Tothill.' The highest in the fancy—all the GAME ones, Who are not very much beneath her weight.

1855. A. TROLLOPE, *The Warden*, ch. viii. He was a most courageous lad, GAME to the backbone.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 19 June, p. 395. The round had lasted sixteen minutes, and no one present had ever seen GAMER or more determined fighting.

2. (common).—Ready; willing; prepared. [Also from cock-fighting. See sense 1].

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, p. 99, (ed. 1857). 'All alive to-day, I suppose?' 'Regular GAME, sir.'

1856. READE, *Never Too Late* ch. xxi. I'm GAME to try.

1865. *Bentley*, p. 182. 'The Excursion Train.' Again to London back we came The day the excursion ticket said, And really both of us felt GAME To travel round the world instead.

1880. *Punch's Almanack*. Got three quid; have cried a go with Fan, GAME to spend my money like a man.

1891. FARJEON, *The Mystery of M. Felix*, p. 103. 'I'm GAME,' said Sophy, to whom any task of this kind was especially inviting.

1891. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 51. 'Yes, I am GAMEY, you bet!' exclaimed the Chinaman, softly.

1891. J. NEWMAN *Scampering Tricks*, p. 121. It is nearly midnight. I am GAME for another hour, are you?

3. (old).—Lame; crooked; disabled: as in GAME LEG.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*. GAME-LEG, a lame leg.

1825. SCOTT, *St. Ronan's Well*, ch. i. Catching hold of the devil's GAME leg with his episcopal crook.

1851. G. BORROW, *Lavengro*, ch. lxvii., p. 204 (1888). Mr. Platitude, having what is vulgarly called a GAME leg, came shambling into the room.

1875. JAS. PAYN, *Walter's Word*, ch. i. Well, you see, old fellow, with a GAME-arm (his left arm is in a sling), and a GAME-leg (he has limped across the platform with the aid of his friend, and also of a crutch), one feels a little helpless.

4. (thieves').—Knowing; wide-awake; and (of women) FLASH (*q.v.*), or inclined to venery. *E.g.*, GAME-COVE = an associate of thieves; GAME-woman = a prostitute; *i.e.*, a woman who is GAME (sense 2); GAME-PULLET (GROSE) = a girl that will show sport, a female GAME-CKOCK; GAME-SHIP (old) = a ship whose commander and officers could be corrupted by bribes to allow the cargo to be stolen (CLARK RUSSELL).

1676. ETHEREDGE, *Man of Mode*, ii. Go on, be the GAME mistress of the town and entice all our young fops as fast as they come from travel.

COCK OF THE GAME, *subs. phr.* (old).—A champion; an undoubted blood; a star of magnitude (cock-pit).

1719. DUFREY, *Pills*, iii., 329. Now all you tame gallants, you that have the name, And would accounted be COCKS OF THE GAME.

1822. SCOTT, *Nigel*, xiv. I have seen a dung-hill chicken that you meant to have picked clean enough; it will be long ere his lordship ruffles a feather with a COCK OF THE GAME.

TO MAKE GAME OF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To turn into ridicule; to delude; to humbug.

1671. MILTON, *Samson*, 1331. Do they not seek occasion of new quarrels, On my refusal, to distress me more; Or MAKE A GAME OF my calamities?

1690. B. E., *New Dictionary*. What you GAME me? c. do you jeer me, or pretend to expose me to MAKE A May-GAME OF me?

1745. *Hist. of Coldstream Guards*, 25 Oct. If the militia are reviewed tomorrow by his Majesty, the soldiers of the third regiment of Guards are to behave civilly and not to laugh or to MAKE ANY GAME OF them.

TO DIE GAME, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To maintain a resolute attitude to the last; to show no contrition.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. To DIE GAME, to suffer at the gallows without showing any signs of fear or repentance.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. liv. The ruffian lay perfectly still and silent. 'He's gaun to die GAME only how,' said Dinmont.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick* (ed. 1857), p. 363. I say that the coachman did not run away; but that he DIED GAME—GAME as pheasants; and I won't hear nothin' said to the contrary.

1869. SPENCER, *Study of Sociology*, ch. viii., p. 183 (9th ed.). Nor should we forget the GAME-cock, supplying, as it does, a word of eulogy to the mob of

roughs who witness the hanging of a murderer, and who half condone his crime if he DIES GAME.

1871. *Times*, 30 Jan. *Critique on London*, etc. The principal was acquitted, and though his accomplices were hung in Pall Mall at the scene of their act, they DIED GAME.

TO GET AGAINST THE GAME, *verb. phr.* (American).—To take a risk; to chance it. [From the game of poker].

TO PLAY THE GAME, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To do a thing properly; to do what is right and proper.

1889. GEOFFREY DRAGE, *Cyril*, ch. vii. I really think he is . . . not PLAYING THE GAME.

THE FIRST GAME EVER PLAYED, *subs. phr.* (venery).—Copulation. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

GAMECOCK, *adj.* (old).—Hectoring; angry; valiant out of place.

1838. LEVER, *Handy Andy*. Smoke and fire is my desire, So blaze away my GAMECOCK squire.

GAMENESS, *subs.* (colloquial).—Pluck; endurance; the mixture of spirit and bottom.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. xxiv. There was no doubt about his GAMENESS.

1884. *Referee*, 23 March, p. 1, c. 4. Carter fought with great GAMENESS, but he never had a look in.

GAMESTER, *subs.* (old).—I. A prostitute. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *All's Well*, v. 3. She's impudent, my lord, and was a common GAMESTER to the camp.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair* ii. 1. Ay, ay, GAMESTERS, mocke a plain soft wench of the suburbs. do.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.*, p. 404. Be not att first to nice nor coye when GAMSTERS you are courtinge.

2. (old).—A ruffler; a gallant; a wencher; a man fit and ready for anything; also a player.

1639-61. *Rump*, i., 253, 'A Medley.' Room for a GAMESTER that flies at all he sees.

1676. ETHEREDGE, *Man of Mode*, v., i. Live it also like a frank GAMESTER, on the square.

**GAMEY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—I. High-smelling; offensive to the nose; half-rotten.

2. (colloquial). — Frisky; plucky.

1843. DICKENS, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, ch. xi. There's something GAMEY in it, young ladies, ain't there.

1869. S. BOWLES, *Our New West*, p. 275. Horses are fresh and fat and GAMEY.

**GAMINESS**, *subs.* (colloquial). — The malodorousness proceeding from decay and—by implication—filthiness.

**GAMING-HOUSE**, *subs.* (old). — A house of ill-repute—hell, tavern, or stews.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie, Berlan*, a common tippling house, a HOUSE OF GAMING, or of any other disorder.

**GAMMER**, *subs.* (old).—An old wife; a familiar address; the correlative of GAFFER (*q.v.*).

1551. *Gammer Gurton's Needle* (Title).

1706. *Hudibras Redivivus*, Part VI. And monkey faces, yawns, and stammers, Delude the pious dames and GAMMERS To think their mumbling guides precatation So full of heavenly inspiration.

1842. TENNYSON, *The Goose*. Ran Gaffer, stumbled GAMMER.

**GAMMING**, *subs.* (nautical). — A whaleman's term for the visits paid by crews to each other at sea.

1884. G. A. SALA, in *Illus. Lon. News*, July 19, p. 51, c. 2. When two or more American whalers meet in mid-ocean, and there are no whales in sight, it is customary to tack topsails and exchange visits. This social intercourse the whalemen call GAMMING. . . . I cannot help fancying that 'gam' is in greater probability an abbreviation of the Danish 'gammen,' sport, or that it has something to do with the nautical 'gammoning,' the lashing by which the bowsprit is bound firmly down to the cutwater.

1890. *Century*, Aug. To GAM means to gossip. The word occurs again and again in the log-books of the old whalers.

**GAMMON**, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. Nonsense; humbug; deceit. Sometimes GAMMON AND SPINACH. No GAMMON = no error, no lies.

[SKEAT says from Mid. Eng. *Gamen* = a game; but R. SHERWOOD (*Eng. Dict.*, 1660), gives 'a beggar or seller of gammons of Bacon; and in COTGRAVE (1611), *jambonnier* = a beggar, also a seller of bacon, or gammons of bacon.]

c. 1363. *Chester Plays*. i. 102. This GAMMON shall begin.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, l. 208. I thought myself pretty much a master of GAMMON, but the Billingsgate eloquence of Mrs. P. . . . exceeded me.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. GAMON. What rum GAMMON the old file pitched to the flat.

1823. *Mod. Flash Dict.* GAMMON—Falsehood and bombast.

1823-45. HOOD, *Poems* (ed. 1846), vi., p. 96. Behold yon servitor of God and Mammon, Who, binding up his Bible with his ledger, Blends Gospel texts with trading GAMMON.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxvii. Lord bless their little hearts, they thinks its all right, and don't know no better, but they're the victims o' GAMMON, Samivel, they're the victims o' GAMMON.



1837. BARHAM, I. L. *Blasphemer's Warning*. When each tries to humbug his dear Royal Brother, in Hopes by such GAMMON to take one another in.

1839. *Comic Almanack*, Jan. But if you wish to save your bacon, Give us less GAMMON.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. xxii, p. 199. 'Oh, my goodness, how polite we are!' exclaimed Miss Mowcher. . . . 'What a world of GAMMON AND SPINNAGE it is!'

1890. HUME NISBET, *Bail up!* p. 92. I'm real grit and no GAMMON.

2. (thieves').—A confederate whose duty is to engage the attention of a victim during robbery; a BONNET (*q.v.*) or COVER (*q.v.*).

*Verb* (colloquial). — 1. To humbug: to deceive; to take in with fibs; to KID (*q.v.*).

1700. *Step to the Bath*, quoted in Ashton's *Soc. Life in Reign of Queen Anne*, v. ii., p. 111. We went to the *Groom Porter's* . . . there was Palming, Hodging, Loaded Dice, Levant, and GAMMONING, with all the Speed imaginable.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 6. Vile I can get fifteen bob a day by GAMMONING a maim, the devil may vork for me.

1825. BUCKSTONE, *The Bear Hunters*, ii. There! that's just the way she GAMMONS me at home.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. ii. Why, my lad, we shall see to-morrow morning; but you GAMMONS so bad about the rhino that we must prove you a bit: so Kate, my dear,—to the pretty girl who had let me in.

1838. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xiii. So then they pours him out a glass o' wine, and GAMMONS him about his driving, and gets him into a reg'lar good humour.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsty Legends*, 'Misadventures at Margate.' And 'cause he GAMMONS so the flats, ve calls him Weeping Bill!

1840. HOOD, *Tale of a Trumpet*. Lord Bacon couldn't have GAMMONED her better.

1890. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up!* p. 70. Oh, don't try to GAMMON me, you cunning young school-miss.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—To bam; to bamblustercate; to bamboozle; to bambosh; to barney; to be on the job; to best; to bilk; to blarney; to blow; to bosh; to bounce; to cob; to cod; to cog; to chaff; to come over (or the artful, or Paddy, or the old soldier over) one; to cram; to do; to do brown; to doctor; to do Taffy; to fake the kidment; to flare up; to flam; to flummox; to get at (round, or to windward of) one; to gild the pill; to give a cock's egg; to gravel; to gull; to haze: to jimmify; to jaw; to jockey; to jolly; to kid; to make believe the moon is made of green cheese (Cotgrave); to mogue; to palm off on; to pickle; to plant; to plum; to poke bogey (or fun) at; to promoss; to put the kibosh on; to put in the chair, cart, or basket; to pull the leg; to queer; to quiz; to roast; to roorback; to run a bluff, or the shenanigan; to sell; to send for pigeon's milk; to sit upon; to send for oil of strappum, etc.; to shave; to slum, or slumguzzle; to smoke; to snack; to soap, soft soap, sawder, or soft sawder; to spoof; to stick; to stall; to string, or get on a string; to stuff; to sawdust, or get on sawdust and treacle; to suck; to suck up; to sugar; to swap off; to take a rise out of; to rot; to tommy-rot; to take in, or down; to take to town; to take to the fair; to tip the traveller; to try it on; to throw dust in the eyes; to throw a tub to a whale; to pepper; to throw pepper in the eyes; to use the pepper box; to whiffle; to work the poppycock racket (Irish-American). [NOTE.—Many of the foregoing are used substantively, *e.g.*, a bam, a barney, a

sell, bambosh = nonsense; deceit; a hoax, etc.]

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Donner un pont à faucher* (also, thieves' = to lay a trap); *dindonner* (popular: from *dindon* = a gull, a gobbler); *battre à la Parisienne* (thieves': = to cheat; to come the cockney); *se ficher de la fiole*, or *de la bobine*, *de quelqu'un* (popular: to get on with it, i.e., to try to fool); *envoyer chercher le parapluie de l'escouade* (military: *parapluie de l'escouade* = the squad's umbrella: to send on a fool's errand; cf., to send for pigeon's milk, etc.); *la faire à quelqu'un* (popular); *faucher* (thieves' = to best); *enfoncer* (familiar: to let in: also to surpass); *cabasser* (popular); *monter des couleurs*, *le job*, or *un schtosse* (= to do up brown); *faire le coup*, or *monter le coup*, *à quelqu'un* (popular: = to take a rise); *bouffer la botte* (military: = to SELL (q.v.) or BILK, as a woman refusing congress after receiving the SOCKET-MONEY (q.v.) in advance); *bouler* (popular: also to WHOP (q.v.)); *être l'autre* (popular: = to GET LEFT (q.v.)); *mettre dans le sac* (thieves': = to bag, i.e., to trap); *coller* or *poser un lapin* (popular: = to MAKE A HARE OF (q.v.)); also more generally, to BILK (q.v.)); *emblémer* (thieves': = to stick); *faire voir le tour* (popular: = to show how it's done; *connaître le tour* = to know the game); *faire la queue à quelqu'un* (popular: = to pull one's leg); *tirer la carotte* (thieves'); *canarder* (popular: = to bring down); *empaler* (popular: = to stick); *passer des curettes* (popular: = to be fool); *monter une gaffe* (popular: *gaffe* = a joke, a hoax); *jobarder* (popular: *job* = simpleton, and is the same as *jobelin*); *mener*

*en bateau un pante pour le refaire* (thieves': = to take a man on); *monter un bateau* (popular); *promener quelqu'un* (popular: cf., to take to town); *compter des mistoufles* (fam.: *mistoufle* = a scurvy trick); *gourrer* (popular: = to bosh); *affluer* (from *flower* = to cheat, to diddle); *rouster* (popular and thieves'); *affûter* (thieves' = to run down, also to make unlawful profits); *bouler* (popular); *juiffer* (popular = to Jew); *pigeonner* (popular to PLUCK A PIGEON (q.v.)); *flancher* (popular = to KID (q.v.)); *faire la barbe* (popular = to SHAVE (q.v.)); *monter* or *hisser un gandin* (thieves' = literally to hoist a swell); *fourrer* or *mettre dedans* (popular = to take in and do for); *planter un chou* (fam.); *être marron* (popular); *interver dans les vannes* (= to let oneself be sucked-up); *monter un godan à quelqu'un* (popular); *griller quelqu'un* (popular = to cuckold); *passer en lunette* (popular); *goujonner* (i.e.), to hook like a gudgeon); *fourguer* (thieves' = also to FENCE (q.v.)); *pousser une blague* (popular = to cram); *paquelinier* (thieves'); *se baucher* (thieves'); *balancer* (popular).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Zin-kennen an Almoni peloni* (= to send one after Cheeks the Marine [q.v.]. *Almoni* and *peloni* are used mockingly in combination and also singly for a non-existent person); *anbeulen* (= to fool); *jemanden arbeiten* (= to haze, to cram); *bekaspern*, or *bekaschpern*, or *beschwatzen* (= to fool: from Heb. *kosaw* = to cheat).

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Disparar* (= also to talk nonsense; to

blunder); *hacer á uno su dominguillo*, or *hacer su dominguillo de uno* (colloquial: *dominguillo* = a figure made of straw and used at bull fights to enrage the bulls); *freirselá á alguno* (*freir* = to fry: to deceive: Cf., to ROAST, or have one ON TOAST); *pegar una tostada á alguno* (= to put one on toast: more generally to play a practical joke); *echar de baranda* (= to EMBROIDER (*q.v.*)); *bola* (*subs.* = humbug; a hoax); *borrufalla* (*subs.* = bombast); *chicolear* (= to jest in gallantry); *engatusar* (= to rob, or hurt; also to trick without intention); *candonguear* (also = to jeer); *abrir á chasco* (also to jeer); *encantar* (= to enchant).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS. *Ganexzarre*; *dar la stoffa*; *traversare* (*cf.*, TO COME OVER); *scamuffare* = to disguise oneself).

2. (thieves').—To act as BONNET (*q.v.*) or COVER (*q.v.*) to a thief.

*Intj.* (colloquial).—Nonsense; SKITTLES! (*q.v.*).

1827. R. B. PEAKE, *Comfortable Lodgings*, i., 3. *Sir H. (aside)*. GAMMON!

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. vii. GAMMON, tell that to the marines: you're a spy, messmate.

1854. THACKERAY, *The Rose and the Ring*, p. 100. Ha! said the king, you dare to say GAMMON to your sovereign.

1861. A. TROLLOPE, *Framley Parsonage*, ch. iv. GAMMON, said Mr. Gowerby; and as he said it he looked with a kind of derisive smile into the clergyman's face.

GAMMON AND PATTERN. *subs. phr.* (thieves').—1. (old).—The language used by thieves; 2. (modern).—A meeting; a PALAVER. (*q.v.*). 3. Common-place talk of any kind.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 150. GAMMON AND PATTERN is the language of cant, spoke among themselves: when one of them speaks well, another says he GAMMONS well.

1811. *Lex. Bal.* s.v. GAMMON AND PATTERN. Commonplace talk of any kind.

TO GIVE (OR KEEP) IN GAMMON. *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To engage a person's attention while a confederate is robbing him.

1719. CAPT. ALEX. SMITH, *Thieves' Grammar*, s.v.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 51. Bagrie called the woman of the house, KEPT HER IN GAMMON in the back room, while I returned and brought off the till. *Ibid.*, p. 68. I whiddled to the Doctor and he GAVE ME GAMMON.

TO GAMMON LUSHY (OR QUEER, etc.). *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To feign drunkenness, sickness, etc.

TO GAMMON THE TWELVE. *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To deceive the jury.

1819. VAUX, *Life*. A man who has been tried by a criminal court and by a plausible defence has induced the jury to acquit him, or to banish the capital part of the charge and so to save his life, is said by his associates to have GAMMONED THE TWELVE in prime twig, alluding to the number of jurymen.

GAMMONER, *subs.* (old).—1. One who GAMMONS (*q.v.*); a nonsense-monger. Fr., *bonisseur de loffitudes*; *blagueur*; *mangeur de frimes*.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry* i. Fly to the GAMMONERS, and awake to everything that's going on.

2. (thieves').—A confederate who covers the action of his chief; a BONNET, a COVER, a STALL, all which *sec.*



1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 66. The Doctor played the part of the GAMMONER so well that I made my escape without being observed.

**GAMMY**, *subs.* (tramps').—I. Cant.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Do you stoll the GAMMY? Do you understand cant?

2. (common).—A nickname for a lameter; a HOPPING JESUS; (*q.v.*).

3. (Australian).—A fool.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 191. Well, of all the GAMMIES you are the gammiest, Slowboy, to go and string yourself to a woman, when you might have had the pick of Melbourne.

*Adj.* (tramps').—I. Bad; impossible. Applied to householders of whom it is known that nothing can be got. See BEGGARS' MARKS. GAMMY-VIAL = a town in which the police will not allow unlicensed hawking. (VIAL=FR., *Ville*).

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime, Glossary*, s.v.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab.*, i., 466. No villages that are in any way GAMMY are ever mentioned in these papers. *Ibid.*, i., 404. These are left by one of the school at the houses of the gentry, a mark being placed on the door post of such as are bone or GAMMY, in order to inform the rest of 'the school' where to call, and what houses to avoid.

2. Forged; false; spurious: as a GAMMY - MONEKER = a forged signature; GAMMY-LOUR = counterfeit money, etc.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime*, s.v.

1852. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assistant* (3rd. ed.), p. 445. Spurious medicine, GAMMY stuff, bad coin, GAMMY LOWER, p. 446.

1889. C. T. CLARKSON and J. HALL RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321. Bad money (coin). . . . GAMMY LOWER.

3. (theatrical).—Old; ugly.

4. (common).—Same as GAME, sense 3: *e.g.*, a GAMMY arm = an arm in dock. GAMMY-eyed = blind; sore-eyed; or afflicted with ecchymosis in the region of the eyes. GAMMY-leg = a lame leg. Also (*subs.*) a term of derision for the halt and the maimed.

**GAMP**, *subs.* (common).—I. A monthly nurse; a FINGERSMITH (*q.v.*). [After Mrs. Sarah Gamp, a character in *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1843).] Also applied to a fussy and gossiping busybody.

1864. *Sun*, 28 Dec. A regular GAMP . . . a fat old dowdy of a monthly nurse.

1868. BREWER, *Phr. and Fab.* (quoted from *Daily Telegraph*). Mr. Gathorne Hardy is to look after the GAMPS and Harrises of the Strand.

2. (common).—An umbrella; specifically, one large and loosely-tied; a LETTUCE (*q.v.*). [The original Sarah always carried one of this said pattern.] Sometimes a SARAH GAMP. For synonyms, see RAIN-NAPPER.

1870. *Lond. Figaro*, 15 June. Though —shattered, baggy, shivered GAMP!

1883. G. R. SIMS, *Life Boat*. He donned his goloshes and shouldered his GAMP.

1890. *Daily Chron.*, 5 Mar. Sainte-Beuve insisted that though he was prepared to stand fire he was under no obligation to catch cold, and with his GAMP over his head he exchanged four shots with his adversary.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 2 Apr., p. 106, c. 3. I never had a brand new tile, a glossy silk or swagger brown, But I left home without a GAMP, And rain or hail or snow came down

3. (journalists').—*The Standard*.

*Adj.* (common).—Bulging. Also GAMPISH.

1864. *Derby Day*, p. 18. I wasn't joking, there is an air of long-suffering about you, as if you had been mortifying the flesh by carrying a GAMPISH UMBRELLA up Piccadilly, and back again.

1881. *Mac. Mag.*, Nov., p. 62. Grasping his GAMP umbrella at the middle.

**GAMUT**, *subs.* (artists'). — Tone ; general scheme ; SWIM (*q.v.*). Thus IN THE GAMUT = a picture, a detail, or a shade of colour, in tone with its environment.

**GAN** (also GANE), *subs.* (old). — The mouth. [A.S., *ganian* = to yawn.] Occasionally = throat, lip. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1512-13. DOUGLAS, *Virgil*, 250, 29. To behold his ouglie ene twane, His teribill vissage, and his grislle GANE.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 64. GAN, a mouth.

1610. ROWLAND, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38. (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GAN, a mouth. *Ibid.* A gere peck in thy GAN.

1656. BROOME, *A Jovial Crew*, Act ii. This bowse is better than rombowse, it sets the GAN a giggling.

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, Pt. I., ch. v., p. 49. (1874.) GAN, a lip.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*. GANNS, the lips.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1881. *New York Slang Dict.*, s.v.

**GANDER**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A married man ; in America one not living with his wife ; a GRASS-WIDOWER (*q.v.*).

*Verb.* (old). — To ramble ; to waddle (as a goose). Also, to go in quest of women ; TO GROUSE (*q.v.*).

1859. H. KINGSLEY, *Geoff. Hamblin*, ch. x. Nell might come GANDERING back in one of her tantrums.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. xlvii. She GANDERED upstairs to the dressing-room again.

**GONE GANDER**. — See GONE COON.

TO SEE HOW THE GANDER HOPS, *verb. phr.* (American). — To watch events. A variant of To see how the cat jumps.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear*, p. 96. SEEN' HOW THE GANDER HOPPED I jumped up and hollered, Git out, Tromp, you old raskel !

WHAT'S SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE IS SAUCE FOR THE GANDER, *phr.* (common). — A plea for consistency.

**GANDER-MONTH**, *subs.* (common). — The month after confinement ; when a certain license (or so it was held) is excusable in the male. Also GANDER-MOON, the husband at such a period being called a GANDER-MOONER. Cf., BUCK - HUTCH and GOOSE-MONTH.

1617. MIDDLETON, *A Faire Quarrell*, iv., 4. Wondering GANDER-MOONERS.

1653. BROME, *English Moor in Five New Playes*. I'll keep her at the least this GANDER-MONTH, while my fair wife lies-in.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GANDER-PARTY**, *subs.* (common). — A gathering of men ; a STAG-PARTY (*q.v.*) ; also BULL-DANCE, GANDER-GANG, etc. Cf., HEN-PARTY = an assembly of women.

**GANDER-PULLING**. See GOOSE-RIDING.

**GANDER'S WOOL**, *subs. phr.* (common). — Feathers.

**GANG**, *subs.* (old : now recognised). — A troop ; a company.

1639-61. RUMF, i., 228. 'The Scotch War.' With his gay gang of Blue-caps all. *Ibid* ii., 104, 'The GANG ; or, the Nine Worthies, etc.'

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. GANG, an ill knot or crew of thieves, pick-pockets or miscreants ; also a society of porters under a regulation.

1704. CIBBER, *Careless Husband*, i., 1. *Sir C.* Who was that other? *More.* One of Lord Foppington's gang.

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, bk. i., c. 14. What then have I to do in the pursuit of greatness, but to employ a GANG, and to make the use of this GANG centre in myself? *Idem.* bk. iii., c. 14. But in an illegal society or GANG, as this of ours, it is otherwise.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*. GANG, company, squad, mob.

**GANGER**, *subs.* (old; now recognised).

—An overseer or foreman of a gang of workmen; one who superintends. For synonyms, *see* GOVERNOR.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab.*, ii., 487. The GANGER, or head of the working gang, who receives his orders from the inspector, and directs the men accordingly.

1884. *Cornhill Mag.*, June, p. 614. The mother and boy do the work, while the father constitutes himself contractor for and GANGER over their labour.

**GANYMEDE**, *subs.* (old).—I. A sodomist. For synonyms, *see* USHER.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, *Catamito*, a GANIMED, an ingle, a boy hired to sinne against nature. [And in COT-GRAVE (1611) under GANYMEDES; Any boy that's loved for carnal abuse, an Ingle.]

1598. MARSTON, *Satyres*, ii. But Ho! What GANIMEDE is it doth grace The gallant's heels.

2. (popular).—A pot-boy (*i.e.*, a cup-bearer). The masculine of HEBE (*q.v.*).

1659. FLORIO-TORRIANO, *Vocabulario*. *Mescitore*, a skinker or filler of wine; also a mingler, a GANIMEDE.

1841. *Punch* I., p. 101, c. 1. Lo! GANYMEDE appears with a foaming tankard of ale.

**GAOL-BIRD**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—A person who has been often in gaol; an incorrigible rogue. Fr., *un chevronné*. For synonyms, *see* WRONG 'UN.

1680. *Hist. of Edward II.*, p. 146. It is the piety and the true valour of an army, which gives them heart and victory; which how it can be expected out of ruffians and GAOL-BIRDS, I leave to your consideration.

1701. DEFOE, *True Born Englishman*, part II. In print my panegyrics fill the street, And hired GAOL-BIRDS, their huzzas repeat.

1762. SMOLLETT, *L. Greaves*, vol. II., ch. ix. He is become a blackguard GAOL-BIRD.

1857. C. READE, *Never Too Late* ch. xi. The GAOL-BIRDS who piped this tune were without a single exception the desperate cases of this moral hospital; they were old offenders.

1882. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 5 Oct. Liberating the GAOL-BIRDS in Alexandria.

**GAOLER'S COACH**, *subs. phr.* (old).

—A hurdle to the place of execution.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GAP**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *puendum*: also SPORTSMAN'S GAP and WATER-GAP (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

d. 1746. ROBERTSON of Struan, *Poems*, p. 84. O gracious Hymen! Cure this dire Mishap, Sew up this mighty rent, or fill the GAP.

TO BLOW THE GAP, *verb. phr.* (old).—The same as TO BLOW THE GAFF (*q.v.*).

1821. EGAN, *Real Life*, etc., i., 557. He should like to smack the bit without BLOWING THE GAP.

**GAPER**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *puendum*. Also, GAPER (and GAPE) OVER THE GARTER. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**GAPES**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A fit of yawning; also the open mouth of astonishment.

1818. AUSTEN, *Persuasion*. Another hour of music was to give delight or the 'GAPES.



1838. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker* (ed. 1862), p. 373. But what gave me the GAPES was the scenes (at the theatre).

**GAPSEED**, *subs.* (common). — 1. A cause of astonishment; anything provoking the ignorant to stare with open mouth. Also TO SEEK A GAPE'S NEST.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*. *Ananare* . . . to go idly loytring vp and downe as we say, to go seeking for a halfepee worth of GAFING SEED.

1600. NASHE, *Summer's Last Will*, in *wks.* (Grosart), vi., 144. That if a fellow licensed to beg, Should all his life time go from faire to faire, And buy GAPE-SEED, having no businesse there.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*. GAPE-SEED, whatever the gazing crowd idly stares and gapes after; as Puppet-shows, Rope-dancers, Monsters and Mountebanks, anything to feed the eye.

1694. *Poor Robin*. 'Tis plainly clear, They for their GAPE-SEED do pay dear.

1856. *N. and Q.*, 2 S 1., 362. Plenty of persons were sowing GAPESEED.

1870. B. F. CLARK, *Mirthfulness*, p. 24. Do you wish to buy some GAPE-SEED?

1884. *Daily News*, 8 Oct. Title (at head of sporting column).

2. (common). — An open-mouthed loiterer.

1885. *Sportsman*, June 23, p. 2, c. 4. The yearlings bred by Messrs. Graham were offered to a rather select audience of buyers, though the ring was surrounded by a fairly strong crowd of GAPESEEDS.

**GAPPED**, *ppl. adj.* (old). — Worst; FLOORED (*q.v.* for synonyms).

1753. RICHARDSON, *Sir Chas. Grandison*. I will never meet at hard-edge with her; if I did . . . I should be soundly GAPPED.

**GAP-STOPPER**, *subs.* (old). — 1. A whoremaster. For synonyms, see MOLROWER.

2. (venery). — The *penis*. [GAP = female *puendum*]. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**GAR.** See BY GAR!

**GARBLE**, TO GARBLE THE COIN-AGE, *verb. phr.* (old). — See quot. [GARBLE = to pick and choose.]

1875. JEVONS, *Money*, etc., p. 81. A practice amongst money-lenders of picking out the newest coins of full weight for export or re-melting, and passing the light ones into circulation.

**GARDEN**, *subs.* (various). — 1. (greengrocers', fruiterers', etc.) = Covent Garden Market; 2. (theatrical) = Covent Garden Theatre; 3. (diamond merchants') = Hatton Garden. Cf., HOUSE, LANE, etc.

[THE GARDEN (=Covent Garden) was frequently used for the whole neighbourhood, which was notorious as a place of strumpets and stews. Thus, GARDEN-HOUSE = a brothel; GARDEN-GODDESS = a woman of pleasure; GARDEN-GOUT = the pox or clap; GARDEN-WHORE = a low prostitute, etc.]

1733. BAILEY, *Erasmus*. When young men by whoring, as it commonly falls out, get the pox, which, by the way of extenuation, they call the Common GARDEN-GOUT.

1782. GEO. PARKER, *Humorous Sketches*, p. 90. No more the GARDEN female orgies view.

1851-61. W. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. I., p. 85. Not only is the GARDEN itself all bustle and activity, but the buyers and sellers stream to and from it in all directions, filling every street in the vicinity.

1884. JAS. PAYN, in *Cornhill Mag.*, Mar., p. 257. She [Miss O'Neill] talked of the GARDEN and 'the Lane,' and was very fond of recitation.

1890. *Tit-Bits*, 29 Mar., p. 1389, c. 1. Let me describe the GARDEN. A long, straight street, stretching almost due north and south, from Holborn Circus to Clerkenwell Road. *Ibid.* c. 2. The cut stones are chiefly sold to the large dealers in the GARDEN.

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. [The simile is common to all nations, ancient and modern. Shakspeare, in Sonnet 16, seems to play upon this double meaning; *e.g.*, Now stand you on the top of happy hours; And many maiden-GARDENS, yet unset, With virtuous wish would bear you living flowers.] Also GARDEN OF EDEN. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

TO PUT ONE IN THE GARDEN, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To defraud a confederate; to keep back part of the REGULARS (*q.v.*), or SWAG (*q.v.*).

**GARDENER**, *subs.* (common).—I. An awkward coachman. [In allusion to the gardener who on occasion drives the carriage.] *Cf.*, TEA-KETTLE COACHMAN.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*. Noon: Par. I. He can drive neither to the right nor to the left, nor backwards nor forwards. . . . A sarcastic saloon omnibus driver behind jeeringly bids him keep moving, accompanying the behest by the aggressive taunt of GARD'NER.

2. (venery).—The *penis*. GARDEN (*q.v.*)=female *pudendum*. Also GARDEN-ENGINE. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and FRICK.

**GARDEN-GATE**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—I. A magistrate. For synonyms, see BEAK.

2. (venery).—The *labia minora*. [GARDEN-HEDGE = the pubic hair.]

**GARDEN-LATIN**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Barbarous or sham Latin. Also APOTHECARIES', BOG, DOG, and KITCHEN-LATIN.

**GARDEN-RAKE**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A tooth-comb. Also SCRATCHING-RAKE or RAKE.

**GARDY-LOO**, *subs.* (old Scots).—A warning cry; 'take care!' [Fr. *gardez' (vous de) l'eau!* Used before emptying slops out of window into the street. Hence the act of emptying slops itself, as in quotation dated 1818.]

1771. SMOLLET, *Humphry Clinker*, (British Novelists), xxxi., p. 57. At ten o'clock the whole cargo is flung out of a back windore that looks into some street or lane, and the maid calls GARDY-LOO to the passengers, which signifies 'Lord have mercy on you!'

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, ch. xxvii. She had made the GARDY-LOO out of the wrong window.

**GARGLE**, *subs.* (formerly medical students', now common).—A drink; also generic. *Cf.*, LOTION, and for synonyms, see GO.

1889. *Sporting Times*, 3 Aug., p. 3, c. 1. We're just going to have a GARGLE—will you join us?

*Verb.* (common).—To drink; to 'liquor up.' For synonyms, see DRINKS and LUSH.

1889. *Sporting Times*, 3 Aug., p. 5, c. 5. We GARGLED . . .

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 2 Mar. It's my birthday; let's GARGLE.

**GARGLE-FACTORY**, *subs.* (common).—A public house. For synonyms, see LUSH CRIB.

**GARN**, *intj.* (vulgar).—A corruption of Go on! Get away with you!

1888. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 80. GARN, you farthin' face! She your neck.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 19 Mar., p. 90, c. 3. GAR'N, you men ain't got no sense.

1892. *National Observer*, 6 Feb. p. 307, c. 2. And so simple is the dictum, so redolent of the unlettered Arry that we long to add GARN, oo're you gettin' at?

**GARNISH**, *subs.* (old).—1. A fee or FOOTING (*q.v.*); specifically one exacted by gaolers and old prisoners from a newcomer. The practice was forbidden by 4 Geo. IV., c. 43, sec. 12. Also GARNISH-MONEY.

1592. GREENE, *Quip*, in works, xi., 256. Let a poore man be arrested into one of the counters [prisons] . . . he shall be almost at an angel's charge, what with GARNISH [etc.].

1606. T. DEKKER, *Seven Deadly Sinnes*, p. 28 (Arber's ed.). So that the Counters are cheated of Prisoners, to the great dammage of those that shoulde have their morning's draught out of the GARNISH.

1632. JONSON, *Magnetic Lady*, v. 6. You are content with the ten thousand pounds Defaking the four hundred GARNISH-MONEY?

1704. STEELE, *Lying Lover*, Act iv., Sc. iv. But there is always some little trifle given to prisoners; they call GARNISH.

1752. FIELDING, *Amelia*, Bk. I., ch. iii. Mr. Booth . . . was no sooner arrived in the prison, than a number of persons gathered round him, all demanding GARNISH.

1759. GOLDSMITH, *The Bee*, No. 5, p. 385 (*Globe* ed.). There are numberless faulty expenses among the workmen—clubs, GARNISHES, freedoms, and such like impositions.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xlv. [Jailor *log.*] Thirty shillings a week for lodgings, and a guinea for GARNISH.

2. (thieves').—Fetters; handcuffs. For synonyms, *see* DARBIES.

*Verb.* (thieves').—To fit with fetters; to handcuff.

**GARRET**, *subs.* (common).—1. The head; COCKLOFT (*q.v.*); or UPPER STOREY (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* CRUMPET.

1625. BACON, *Apothgm*, No. 17. My Lord St. Albans said that wise Nature did never put her precious jewels into a GARRET

four stories high, and therefore that exceeding tall men had ever very empty heads.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingold. Leg.* What's called the claret Flew over the GARRET.

2. (old).—The fob-pocket.

TO HAVE ONE'S GARRET UNFURNISHED, *verb. phr.* (common). To be crazy, stupid, lumpish. For synonyms, *see* APARTMENTS and BALMY.

**GARRETEER**, *subs.* (thieves'). A thief whose speciality is to rob houses by entering skylights or garret-windows. Also DANCER and DANCING-MASTER. For synonyms, *see* THIEVES.

2. (journalists').—An imppecunious author; a literary hack.

1849-61. MACAULAY, *Hist. of Eng.*, ch. xxv. GARRETEERS, who were never weary of calling the cousin of the Earls of Manchester and Sandwich an upstart.

1886. SHELLEY (quoted in *Dowden's Life*), i., 47. Show them that we are no Grub-street GARRETEERS.

1892. *National Observer*, 18 Mar., p. 453. Has proclaimed *urbi et orbi* that governments have no business to manufacture specious sentiment by greasing the palms of ignorant and greedy GARRETEERS.

**GARRET-MASTER**, *subs.* (trade).—A cabinet-maker who works on his own account, selling his manufacture to the dealers direct.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab.*, ii., p. 376. These trading operatives are known by different names in different trades. In the shoe trade, for instance, they are called 'chamber-masters,' in the cabinet trade GARRET-MASTERS, and in the cooper's trade the name for them is 'small trading-masters.'



**GARRISON-HACK**, *subs.* (common).

—1. A woman given to indiscriminate flirtation with officers at a garrison.

1889. *Daily Telegraph*, 14 Feb. Lord Normantower, Philip's dearest friend, to whom she, when a GARRISON-HACK, had been engaged, and whom she had thrown over simply because he was poor and prospectless.

1890. *Athenaeum*, 8 Feb., p. 176, c. 1. The heroine is a GARRISON-HACK, but the hero is an Australian.

2. (common).—A prostitute; a soldier's trull. For synonyms, see BARRACK HACK and TART.

**GARROTTE**, *subs.* (common).—A form of strangulation (see *verb*). [From the Spanish *la garrota* = a method of capital punishment, which consists in strangulation by means of an iron collar.]

*Verb.* (common).—1. A method of robbery with violence, much practised some years ago. The victims were generally old or feeble men and women. Three hands were engaged: the FRONT-STALL who looked out in that quarter, the BACK-STALL at the rear, and the UGLY or NASTY-MAN who did the work by passing his arm round his subject's neck from behind, and so throttling him to insensibility.

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of Lond.* Committed to trial for GARROTTING and nearly murdering a gentleman.

1873. TROLLOPE, *Phineas Redux*, ch. xlv. In those days there had been much GARROTTING in the streets.

2. (cards).—To cheat by concealing certain cards at the back of the neck.

**GARROTTER**, *subs.* (common).—A practitioner of GARROTTING (under *verb*, sense 1.)

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*, p. 201. The delectable epistle was written by GARROTTER Bill to his brother.

**GARROTTING**. 1. See GARROTTE (*verb*, sense 1).

2. (gamblers').—Hiding a part of one's hand at the back of the neck for purposes of cheating.

**GARTER**, *subs.* (nautical).—1. *in pl.* the irons, or bilboes. For synonyms, see DARBIES.

TO GET OVER THE GARTER, *verb. phr.* (venéry).—To take liberties with a woman.

TO FLY or PRICK THE GARTER. See PRICK THE GARTER.

**GARVIES**, *subs.* (Scots').—1. Sprats. Sometimes GARVIE-HERRING.

1845. P. ALLOA, *Statis. Acc.*, viii., 597. They are often very successful in taking the smaller fish, such as herrings, GARVIES or sprats, sparlings or smelts.

2. (military).—The Ninety-fourth Foot. [From the small stature of the earlier recruits.]

1869. *Notes and Queries*, 4 S. iii., p. 349. GARVIE. The soubriquet points to the low average height of the recruits in the Fifeshire regiments, which, however, may not now be the case, since recruiting has become less local.

**GAS**, *subs.* (common).—Empty talk; bounce; bombast.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 120. The boys said that was all GAS to scare them off.

1867. *Chambers' Jour.*, 29 June. I've piped off Sabbath GAS in my time I don't deny, but under the woods we mostly tell the truth.

1868. *Chambers' Jour.*, 15 Feb., p. 110. I don't, an' never could splice ends with them as blow off GAS about gold-digging—saying it's plunder easy come an' easy gone, seeking the root of evil, an' other granny talk which hasn't no meaning.

a. 1871. EMERSON (quoted in De Vere's *Amer.*). 'Tis odd that our people should have not water on the brain, but a little GAS there.

1889. *Globe*, 31 Oct., p. 4, c. 4. It went on to state that the petitioner's talk about a divorce was all GAS, and made a further appointment.

*Verb.* (common). — 1. To talk idly; to brag; to bounce; to talk for talking's sake. Fr., *faire son cheval de corbillard* (in American, 'to be on the tall grass.') See LONG BOW.

1872. *Lond. Figaro*, 14 Dec. There is no good to be got out of GASSING about rallying around standards, uniting as one man to resist, etc.

1875. 'American English' in *Chambers' Jour.*, 25 Sept., p. 610. To GAS is to talk only for the purpose of prolonging a debate.

1885. *Society*, 7 Feb., p. 7. Agitators and place-seekers may GAS as much as they please, but they cannot make black appear white.

2. (common).—To impose on by 'GAS'; TO PILL (*q.v.*); TO SPLASH (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see GAMMON.

TO TAKE THE GAS OUT OF ONE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To take the conceit out of; to take down a peg.

TO TURN ON THE GAS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To begin bouncing; also to GAS (*q.v.*).

TO TURN OFF THE GAS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To cease, or cause to cease, from bouncing, vapouring, or GAS (*q.v.*).

TO GAS ROUND, *verb. phr.* (common).—To seek information on the sly; also to GAS (*q.v.*).

GAS-BAG, *subs.* (common).—A man of words or GAS (*q.v.*); a

gasconader. Also GASOMETER. For synonyms, see MOUTH ALMIGHTY.

1889. *Referee*, 6 Jan. That great GAS-BAG of modern days.

GASH, *subs.* (American).—1. The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1878. H. B. STOWE, *Poganuc People*, ch. xiv., p. 122. Ef Zeph Higgins would jest shet up his GASH in town-meetin', that air school-house could be moved fast enough.

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

GASHLY, *adj.* (common).—A vulgarism for GHASTLY.

GASKINS, *subs.* (old).—Wide hose; wide breeches. [From GALLI-GASKINS. Johnson says, 'an old ludicrous word.']

GASP, *subs.* (common).—A dram of spirits. For synonyms, see GO.

*Verb.* (common).—To drink a dram, *e.g.*, 'Will you GASP?' = Will you take something neat.

GASPIPE, *subs.* (nautical).—1. An iron steamer, whose length is nine or ten times her beam. [At one time a ship's length but rarely exceeded four and a half to five times the beam.]

2. (printers').—Bad rollers.

3. (common).—A rifle; specifically the Snider.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 9 July, p. 5, col. 7. The old Snider—the despair-breeding GAS-PIPE of our Volunteers—continues to be used in many of the competitions.

GASPIPE-CRAWLER, *subs. phr.* (common).—A thin man. *Cf.*, LAMP-POST.

**GASSER**, *subs.* (common). — A braggart. For synonyms, *see* MOUTH ALMIGHTY.

**GASSY** (or **GASEOUS**). *adj.* (common). — 1. Likely to take umbrage or to flare-up.

1863. *North American Review*, cxliii., p. 220. GASSY politicians in Congress.

2. (colloquial). — Full of empty talk or GAS (*q.v.*).

1872. WHITNEY, *Life and Growth of Lang.*, p. 17. As when we call an empty and sophistical but ready talker GASSY.

**GASTER**, *subs.* (nonce-word). — A fine and curious eater (Thackeray). In Rabelais = the belly and the needs thereof: a coinage adopted by Urquhart.

**GAT**, *subs.* (schoolboys'). — A quantity; *e.g.*, a GAT of grub = plenty to eat. Also GATS.

1803. *Every-day Life in our Public Schools*. They are called up in GATS of three at a time.

**GATE**, *subs.* (colloquial). — 1. The attendance at a race or athletic meeting, held in enclosed grounds; the number of persons who pass the gate.

1883. *Sportsman*, 20 Dec. The Birmingham man, on account of the large GATE that would be secured, wanted the affair to be brought off in that town, whereas Regan favoured Wolverhampton.

2. Money paid for admission to athletic sports, race course, etc.; the same as GATE-MONEY (*q.v.*).

1891. *Telegraph*, 21 Mar. The leading clubs are now commercial corporations, dependent for revenue on the GATES at the matches.

3. *in. pl.* (University). — The being forbidden to pass outside the gate of a college. *See verb.* sense 1.

18(?) BRADLEY, *Tales of College Life*, p. 19. That's the ticket; that will just land me in time for GATES.

1881. LANG, *xxii. Ballades*, 'Of Midsummer Term.' When freshmen are careless of GATES.

*Verb.* (University). — To confine wholly or during certain hours within the college gate for some infraction of discipline.

1835. *The Snobiad* (WHIBLEY, *Cap and Gown*, p. 141). Two proctors kindly holding either arm Staunch the dark blood and GATE him for the term.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verd. Green*, I., ch. xii. He won't hurt you much, Gigs-lamps! GATE and chapel you!

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. xii. Now you'll both be GATED probably, and the whole crew will be thrown out of gear.

1865. *Cornhill Mag.*, p. 227. He is requested to confine himself to college after a specified hour, which is familiarly termed being GATED.

1870. *Morning Advertiser*, 23 May. The two least culpable of the party have been GATED.

THE GATE, *subs. phr.* (various). — Among fishmongers, Billingsgate; among thieves, Newgate. *Cf.* LANE, ROW, GARDEN, etc.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. i., p. 5. The 'steel,' a slang name of the large metropolitan prisons, as the GATE is for Newgate.

TO BREAK GATES, *verb. phr.* — (University). — To stay out of college after hours.

TO BE AT GATES, *verb. phr.* (Winchester College). — To assemble in Seventh Chamber passage, preparatory to going Hills or Cathedral.

1870. MANSFIELD, *School Life*, p. 149. Soon after morning chapel on a holiday or a remedy all the boys assembled at GATES.

ON THE GATE, *adv. phr.* (thieves'). — On remand.



**GATE-BILL**, *subs.* (University).—

The record of an undergraduate's failure to be within the precincts of his college at, or before, a specified time at night.

1803. *Gradus ad Cant.*, p. 128. To avoid GATE-BILLS he will be out at night as late as he pleases . . . climb over the college wall, and fee his gyp well.

**GATE-MONEY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—

The charge for admission to a race-meeting. See GATE, *subs.*, sense 1.

1885. *Daily News*, 25 May, p. 3, c. 2. The truth of the matter is, that so far as sport goes, open meetings like those at Bath and Salisbury cannot stand up against GATE-MONEY meetings such as Manchester.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 10 Dec. The comfort that is brought home at our great GATE-MONEY meetings gatherings to every visitor.

**GATE-OF-HORN**, *subs. phr.* (venery).

The female *puendum*. Cf., HORN, and for synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.†

**GATE-OF-LIFE**, *subs.* (venery).—The

female *puendum*. Also GATE-OF-HORN. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**GATER**, *subs.* (Winchester College),

—A plunge head foremost into a POT (*q.v.*).

**GATE-RACE** (or -MEETING), *subs.*

(sporting).—Formerly, a contest not got up for sport but entrance money; now a race or athletic meeting to which admission is by payment.

1881. *Daily News*, 14 July. Few of these athletics care to compete at GATE-MEETINGS.

**GATH**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A city or

district in PHILISTIA (*q.v.*); often used, like ASKELOM (*q.v.*) for

PHILISTIA itself. Hence, TO BE MIGHTY IN GATH = to be a PHILISTINE (*q.v.*) of the first magnitude; TO PREVAIL AGAINST GATH = to smite the Philistines hip and thigh, as becomes a valiant companion of the *Dauidsbund*; and so forth.

TELL IT NOT IN GATH, *verb.*

*phr.* (colloquial).—An interjection of derision, signifying that the person exclaimed against has done something the knowledge of which would bring on him the wrath, or the amazement, of his friends.

**GATHER**. TO GATHER UP, *verb.*

*phr.* (American).—To lead away.

1847. *Chronicles of Pineville*, p. 182.

'GATHER him up, boys,' said the judge, 'the sentence of the law must be executed.'

TO GATHER THE TAXES, *verb.*

*phr.* (tailor's).—To go from workshop to workshop seeking employment. Hence, TAX-GATHERER = a man out of work and looking for a job. Cf., INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

OUT OF GATHERS, *adv. phr.*

(colloquial).—In distress. Cf., OUT AT ELBOWS.

**GATHERINGS**. See GAGS.**GATTER**, *subs.* (common).—Beer;

also liquor generally. SHANT OF GATTER = a pot of beer. Fr., *la moussante*. For synonyms, see DRINKS.

1818. MAGINN, *Vidocq Versified*. Lots of GATTER, says she, is flowing. Lend me a lift in the family way.

1841. *Punch*, I., p. 243. GATTER is but threepence a pot, and that's the price of a reasonable 'pike ticket.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. I., p. 232. They have a 'shant of GATTER' (pot of beer) at the nearest 'boozing-ken' (alehouse).

**GAUDEAMUS**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A feast; a drinking bout; any sort of merry-making. [German students', but now general and popular.] From the first word of the mediæval (students') ditty. For synonyms, see JAMBOREE.

**GAUDY** (or **GAUDY-DAY**), *subs.* (common).—A feast or entertainment: specifically the annual dinner of the fellows of a college in memory of founders or benefactors; or a festival of the Inns of Court. (Lat. *gaudere* = to rejoice.)

1721. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* GAUDY DAYS, college or Inns of Court festivals.

1754. B. MARTIN, *Eng. Dict.*, 2nd ed. GAUDIES, double commons, such as they have on GAUDY or grand DAYS in colleges.

1760. FOOTE, *Minor*, Act i. Dine at twelve, and regale, upon a GAUDY DAY, with buns and beer at Islington.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantab.*, p. 122. Cut lectures . . . give GAUDIES and spreads.

1820. LAMB, *Elia* (*Oxford in the Vacation*). Methought I a little grudged at the coalition of the *better Jude* with Simon—clubbing (as it were) their sanctities together, to make up one poor GAUDY-DAY between them.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xxiii. We had a carouse to your honour . . . we fought, too, to finish off the GAUDY.

1878. BESANT AND RICE, *By Celia's Arbour*, ch. xxxiii. Champagne . . . goes equally well with a simple luncheon of cold chicken, and with the most elaborate GAUDY.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—Good; frolicsome; festive. *Cf.*, Shakespeare's 'Let's have one other GAUDY night.'—*Ant. and Cleo.*, iii, 13.

1884. HAWLEY SMART. *From Post to Finish*, p. 176. 'Yes,' answered the trainer, slowly, 'he's right enough; but a Leger's a Leger, and I don't think they are likely to give him a very GAUDY chance.'

NEAT BUT NOT GAUDY, AS THE DEVIL SAID WHEN HE PAINTED HIS BOTTOM PINK, AND TIED UP HIS TAIL WITH PEAGREEN, *phr.* (common).—A locution used to ancient ladies dressed in flaming colours.

**GAUGE**. See GAGE.

TO GET THE GAUGE OF. *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To divine an intention; to read a character; to SIZE, (or RECKON) UP (*g.v.*). Hence, That's about the GAUGE of it = That's a fair description.

**GAULEY**. See BY GOLLY.

**GAWF**, *subs.* (costers').—A red-skinned apple.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab.*, i., 63. A cheap red-skinned fruit, known to costers as GAWFS, is rubbed hard, to look bright and feel soft, and is mixed with apples of a superior description. GAWFS are sweet and sour at once, I was told, and fit for nothing but mixing.

**GAWK**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A simpleton, especially an awkward one, whether male or female. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD. [Scots GOWK = a cuckoo; a fool; whence, TO GOWK = to, play the fool. As in the 'Derision of Wanton Women' (*Bannatyne, MS.*, 1567), 'To gar them ga in GUCKING' = to make them play the fool.]

1837. H. MARTINEAU, *Soc. in America*, i., 299. They proved such GAWKS that they were unable to learn.

1882. McCABE, *New York*, p. 217. I wasn't half as awkward as some of the GAWKS about me.

1887. H. FREDERIC, *Seth's Brother's Wife*, ch. iv. Girls brought up to be awkward GAWKS, without a chance in life.

*Verb.* (colloquial).—To loiter round; to PLAY THE GOAT. [The same verb is used by JONSON

(*Magnetic Lady*, iii., 4, 1632) in the sense of amazed, or bamboozled, *i.e.*, absolutely befooled: Nay, look how the man stands, as he were GOWKED !]

1888. F. R. STOCKTON, *Rudder Grange*, ch. xvi. That afternoon we GAWKED around, a-lookin' at all the outside shows, for Jone said he'd have to be pretty careful of his money now.

**GAWKINESS**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Awkwardness; silliness; GREENNESS (*q.v.*).

1873. MISS BROUGHTON, *Nancy*, ch. xxxvii. The crude GAWKINESS of the raw girl he has drifted into marrying.

**GAWKING**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Loitering and staring; GATHERING HAYSEED (*q.v.*).

**GAWKY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—An awkward booby; a fool. 'NOW SQUIRE GAWKY' = a challenge to a clumsy lout. For synonyms, see **BUFFLE** and **CABBAGE-HEAD**.

1686-1758. RAMSAY, *Poems*, ii., 299. Or, gentle born ye be; but youths in love you're but a GAWKY.

1777. SHERIDAN, *School for Scandal*, Act ii., Sc. 2. *Crab*. Yes, and she is a curious being to pretend to be censorious—an awkward GAWKY, without any one good point under heaven.

1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, ii., ch. 18. Great, long, slab-sided GAWKEYS from the country.

1878. C. H. WALL, tr. *Molière*, ii., 197. Our big GAWKY of a viscount.

*Adj.* (colloquial). — Lanky; awkward; stupid.

1759. TOWNLEY, *High Life Below Stairs* i., 1. Under the form of a GAWKY country boy I will be an eye-witness of my servants' behaviour.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xlviii. Even for his cousin Samuel Newcome, a GAWKY youth with an eruptive countenance, Barnes had appropriate words of conversation.

**GAWNEY** (or **GONEY**), *subs.* (common).—A fool. For synonyms, see **BUFFLE** and **CABBAGE-HEAD**.

**GAY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—1. Dissipated; specifically, given to venery: As in the French, *avoir la cuisse gaie* = to be addicted to the use of men. Hence GAY WOMAN, or GIRL, or BIT = a strumpet; GAY HOUSE = a brothel; TO BE GAY = to be incontinent; GAY IN THE LEGS, IN THE GROIN, IN THE ARSE = SHORT-HEELED (*q.v.*); GAYING INSTRUMENT = the penis [*Lexicon Balatronicum*, 1811, s.v.]; GAY MAN = a wencher; GAY LADIE (old) = a mistress; GAYING IT = copulating.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*, 3767. What eyeleth you? Some GAY girl, God it wot, Hath brough you thus upon the very trot.

1754. *Adventurer*, No. 124. The old gentleman, whose character I cannot better express than in the fashionable phrase which has been contrived to palliate false principles and dissolute manners, had been a GAY man, and was well acquainted with the town.

1854. LEECH, *Pictures of Life and Character*. How long have you been GAY?

1857. J. E. RITCHIE, *Night Side of London*, p. 40. Here in Catherine-street vice is a monster of a hideous mien. The GAY women, as they are termed, are worse off than American slaves.

1868. *Sunday Times*, 19 July. As soon as ever a woman has ostensibly lost her reputation, we, with a grim inappositeness, call her GAY.

2. (common).—In drink. For synonyms, see **SCREWED**.

ALL GAY (or ALL SO GAY). *adv. phr.* (common).—All right; first-rate; ALL SERENE (*q.v.*).

TO FEEL GAY. *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—Inclined for sport, venereal or other; TO FEEL NAUGHTY (*q.v.*).

**GAY TYKE BOY**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A dog fancier.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, s.v.



**GAZEBO**, *subs.* (old).—A summer-house commanding an extensive view. [Dog-Latin, GAZEBO = I will gaze.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GEACH**, *subs.* (thieves').—A thief. For synonyms, see THIEVES.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 56. He was a tolerable GEACH.

*Verb.* (thieves').—To steal. For synonyms, see PRIG.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 73. A small dross scout . . . which I knew had been GEACHED.

**GEAR**, *subs.* (venery).—I. The private parts, both male and female. ['Geere, *besognes*; aussi les parties honteuses' (ROBERT SHERWOOD'S *Dictionnaire, English and French*, appended to COTGRAVE, 1660). 'Besognener . . . also to do or leacher with' (COTGRAVE). Anglo-Saxon: *gearwe* (strong feminine plural) ornaments. SKEAT says original sense of gear was 'preparation.']

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, *Mozza*, a wench, a lasse, a girl. Also a woman's GEERE or cunnie.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.* 'Ffryar and Boye.' I sweare, by night nor day thy GEARE is not to borrow.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabulario*, s.v.

2. (obsolete).—Work, BUSINESS (*q.v.*). Thus: Here's goodly GEAR = Here's fine doings; Here's a pretty kettle of fish. As in *Romeo and Juliet* (ii., 2, 106).

**GEE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—See GEE-GEE.

*Verb.* (colloquial).—I. To go or turn to the off-side; used as a direction to horses. Cf.: It: *gio* = Get on!

1480. *Dialogus Creaturum*. Et cum sic gloriaretur, et cogitaret cum quanta gloria duceretur ad illum virum super equum, dicendo, 'Gio! Gio!' cepit pede percutere terram quasi pungeret equum calcaribus.

2. (colloquial).—To move faster: as a teamster to his horses, 'Gee up!'

1824. *Blackwood's Mag.*, Oct. Mr. Babb GE-HUPPED in vain, and strove to jerk the rein, Nobbs felt he had his option to work or play.

3. (colloquial).—To stop: as 'Gee whoa!'

TO GEE WITH, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To agree with; to fit; to be congenial; to go on all fours with; to do.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, GEARS, s.v. . . . It won't GEE, it won't hit or go.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GEE, it won't GEE, it won't hit or do, it does not suit or fit.

1850. SEAWORTHY, *Nag's Head*, ch. v., p. 35. It don't seem to GEE! said Isaac, as he was trying to adjust the stove.

1888. *Missouri Repub.*, 8 April. He and Mrs. Barnay did not GEE.

**GEE-GEE** (or GEE).—*subs.* (common).—I. A horse. See GEE, *verb.* in all senses. For synonyms, see PRAD.

1888. *Referee*, 15 April, 1/2. In nearly all other races they see most of the GEES do a canter on their way up the course.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 14 April. He knows as much about GEE-GEE's as a professional trainer.

1890. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.* 8 Feb. The GEES were all broken to the stable.

2. (colloquial).—The nickname among journalists (of the interviewer, type) of Mr. G(eorge) G(rossmith), better known, perhaps, as the Society Clown.

**GEE-GEE DODGE**, *subs. phr.* (trade).  
—Selling horseflesh for beef.

1834. GREENWOOD, *Veiled Mysteries*.  
The GEE-GEE DODGE . . . was seldom or  
ever practised . . . it was impossible . . .  
to bargain for a regular supply.

**GEEKIE**, *subs.* (Scots thieves').—A  
police-station.

**GEELOOT**. See GALOOT.

**GEESE**, ALL HIS GEESE ARE  
SWANS, *phr.* (colloquial).—He  
habitually exaggerates, or EM-  
BROIDERS (*q.v.*); or, He is  
always wrong in his estimates of  
persons and things.

THE OLD WOMAN'S PICKING  
HER GEESE (proverbial).—Said  
of a snowstorm. [The other leg  
of the couplet (schoolboys')  
runs: 'And selling the feathers  
a penny a piece.']

LIKE GEESE ON A COMMON  
(colloquial).—Wandering in a  
body, aggressive and at large:  
*e.g.*, as FADDISTS (*q.v.*) in pur-  
suit of a FAD; or members of  
Parliament in recess, when both  
sides go about to say the thing  
which is in them.

**GEEWHILIKENS!** *intj.* (Western  
American).—An exclamation of  
surprise; also JEEWHILIKENS.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*. It is  
on time? No? Three hours late?  
GEEWHILIKENS!

**GEEZER**, *subs.* (popular).—An  
appellation, sometimes, but not  
necessarily, of derision and con-  
tempt; applied to both sexes,  
but generally to women. Usually,  
OLD GEEZER. For synonyms,  
see WITCH.

1885. *Truth about the Stage*, p. 16.  
If we wake up the old GEEZERS we shall  
get notice to quit without compensation

1836. *Broadside Ballad*. 'Her  
Mother's Got the Hump.' This frizzle-  
headed old GEEZER had a chin on her as  
rough—well, as rough as her family, and  
they're rough 'uns.

1890. A. CHEVALIER, 'Knocked 'Em  
in the Old Kent Road.' Nice old GEEZER  
with a nasty cough.

1892. ANSTEY, *Voces Populi*, p. 82.  
Our old GEEZER's perdoocin' the custumary  
amount o' sensation.

**GELDING**, *subs.* (old).—A eunuch.

1380. WYCLIFFE, *Trans. of the  
Bible*, Acts viii. 39. . . the spirit of the  
Lord ravysched Filip, and the GELDYNCE  
say him no more.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

TO ENTER FOR THE GELD-  
INGS' STAKES, *verb. phr.* (old).—  
To castrate a man; also used to  
describe a eunuch.

**GELT**, *subs.* (old).—Money; GILT  
(*q.v.*). Also GELTER. —(DUN-  
COMBE, 1848).

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant.  
Crew*, s.v. There is no GELT to be got,  
Trading is very dull.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GEMINI!** (or **GEMINY!** or **JIMINY!**)  
*intj.* (common).—An exclamation  
of surprise; a mild oath.  
[Generally referred to the Lat.:  
Gemini=the Twins (*i.e.*, Castor  
and Pollux, the objects of an  
old Roman oath); but Palmer  
(*Folk Etymology*), traces the  
interjection to the German, *O  
Gemine!*; Dutch, *Jemy femini!*;  
both abbreviated from the Latin,  
*O Jesu Domine!*; or merely from  
*Jesu meus!*; Italian, *Giesu mio!*  
It seems to have come in at the  
Restoration.] Also **O JIMINY!**;

O JIMMINY FIGS! O JIMMINY GIG! etc.: for the phrase has pleased the cockney mind, and been vulgarised accordingly.

1672. DRYDEN, *The Assignation*, Act ii., Sc. 3. *BEN*. O GEMINI! is it you, sir?

1704. STEELE, *Lying Lover*, Act iv., Sc. 3. *SIM*. I stay with you? Oh GEMINI! Indeed, I can't.

1731. FIELDING, *The Lottery*, Sc. 2. Lord Lace! Oh GEMINI! who's that?

1780. MRS. COWLEY, *The Belle's Stratagem*, iv., 2. Oh GEMINI! beg the petticoat's pardon.

1797. M. G. LEWIS, *Castle Spectre*, iii., 3. Oh GEMINI! what would he use with me, lady?

1798. MORTON, *Secrets Worth Knowing*, i., 1. A parcel of lazy chaps, I dare say—but I'll make them stir their stumps. Well, here we are at last.—Oh GEMINI GIG how my poor bones do ache!

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. i. 'GEMINI! what is that now?' quoth Tip again.

1863. READE, *Hard Cash*, I., 125. O, JIMINY! This polite ejaculation was drawn out by the speaker's sudden recognition of Alfred.

**GEMMAN**, *subs.* (vulgar).—A contraction of gentl.man.

1550. *Docteur Double-All* (the word occurs in this play).

c. 1551. L. SHEPHERD, *John Bon in Arber's Garner*, iv., 107. Ye be the jolliest GEMMAN that I ever saw in my life.

1767. COLMAN, *Oxonian in Town*, I., i. I am glad to see your honour's well. I hope you left all the GEMMIN well at Oxford.

1818. BYRON, *Beppo*, st. 86. At home our Bow-street GEMMEN keep the laws.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. iii., ch. v. . . . but knock down a GEMMAN.

1851. BORROW, *Lavengro*, ch. 26. Here the gipsy GEMMAN see.

**GEN**, *subs.* (costers').—A shilling. Back slang, but *cf.* *Fr.*, *argent*. For synonyms, see BLOW.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. i., p. 19. I'll try you a GEN (shilling) said a coster.

1887. *Saturday Review*, 14 May, p. 700. The difficulty of inverting the word shilling accounts for 'generalize,' from which the abbreviation to GEN is natural as well as affectionate.

**GENDER**, *verb.* (old).—To copulate. [An abbreviation of *ENGENDER*.] For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, iv., 2. A cistern for foul toads To knot and GENDER in.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1778. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1816. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1892. *Bible*, Lev. xix., 19. Thou shalt not let thy cattle GENDER with a diverse kind.

**FEMININE GENDER**, *subs. phr.* (schoolboys').—The female *pudendum*. [As in the old (schoolboys') rhyme: *Amo, amas*, I loved a lass, And she was tall and slender, *Amas, amat*, I laid her flat, And tickled her *FEMININE GENDER*. Quoted (with modifications) by Marryat in *Jacob Faithful*, 1835.]

**GENERALIZE**, *subs.* (costers'). A shilling. See GEN.

**GENERATING PLACE**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*.

**GENERATION TOOL**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The *penis*. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and FRICK.

**GENEVA PRINT**, *subs. phr.* (old).—Gin. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SATIN.

1584-1640. MASSINGER (quoted in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*). And if you meet an Officer preaching of sobriety, Unless he read it in *GENEVA PRINT*, Lay him by the heels.



**GEN-NET**, *subs. phr.* (back slang).  
—Ten shillings.

**GENNITRAF**, *subs.* (back slang).—  
A farthing.

**GENOL**, *adj.* (back slang).—Long.

**GENT**, *subs.* (once literary: now vulgar).—I. A showily-dressed vulgarian. [A contraction of 'gentleman.']

1635. [GLAPTHORNE], *Lady Mother*, in *Bullen's Old Plays*, ii., 114. Hees not a GENT that cannot parlee. I must invent some new and polite phrases.

1785. BURNS, *Epistle to J. Lafruite*, st. 11. Do ye envy the city GENT, Behint a kist to lie and sklent?

1843. THACKERAY, *Irish Sketch Book*, ch. viii. The crowd of swaggering GENTS (I don't know the corresponding phrase in the Anglo-Irish vocabulary to express a shabby dandy), awaiting the Cork mail.

1844. DISRAELI, *Coningsby*, bk. IV., ch. ii. 'Ah, not in business! Hem! professional?' 'No,' said Coningsby, 'I am nothing.'—'Ah! an independent GENT; hem! and a very pleasant thing too.'

1846. *Sunday Paper*, 24 May. Mr. Rawlinson (Magistrate at Marylebone Police Court). What do you mean by GENT? There is no such word in our language. I hold a man who is called a GENT to be the greatest blackguard there is.

1848. *Punch*, vol. XIV., p. 226. His aversion for a GENT is softened by pity.

1869. *Blue Budget*. The GENT indicates a being who apes the gentility without the faintest shadow of a claim to it.

2. (Old Cant).—Money.  
[From Fr., *argent*.] For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

1864. *Revue des Deux Mondes*, 15 Sept., p. 470. Les voleurs anglais disent GENT pour 'argent.'

3. (colloquial).—A sweetheart, a mistress: e.g., My GENT = my particular friend.

*Adj.* (old literary).—Elegant comely; genteel.

1333. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*. 'Miller's Tale.' [Skeat, 1878, i., 194]. As any wesil her body GENT and small.

1553-99. SPENSER. He loved as was his lot, a lady GENT. *Idem*. A knight had wrought against a lady GENT.

1704. *Mad. Knight's Jour.*, p. 44. Law you, sais she, it's right GENT, do you take it—'tis dreadful pretty.

**GENTILE**, *subs.* (colloquial). Any sort of stranger, native or foreign; among the Mormons, any person not professing the Gospel according to Joe Smith. Hence, IN THE LAND OF THE GENTILES=(1) in foreign parts; and (2) in strange neighbourhoods or alien society.

**GENTLE**, *subs.* (anglers').—A maggot; vulgarly, GENTILE.

1811. *Songs of the Chase*. 'The Jolly Anglers.' We have GENTLES in our horns.

**GENTLE CRAFT**, *subs.* (old).—I. The trade of shoemaking. [From the romance of Prince Crispin, who is said to have made shoes.]

1662. *Rump Songs*. 'A Hymn to the Gentle Craft,' etc., ii. 152. Crispin and he were nere akin: The GENTLE CRAFT hath a noble kin.

2. (anglers').—Angling.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arny Ballads', p. 65. Sez I, GENTLE CRAFT, said I.

**GENTLEMAN**, *subs.* (thieves').—A crowbar. For synonyms, see JEMMY.

TO PUT A CHURL (or BEGGAR) UPON A GENTLEMAN, *verb. phr.* (old).—To drink malt liquor immediately after wine.—GROSE.

GENTLEMAN OF THE (THREE, or FOUR, or FIVE) OUTS (or INS), *subs. phr.* (old).—A

varying and ancient wheeze, of which the following are representative :—

Out of money, and out of clothes ; Out at the heels, and out at the toes ; Out of credit, and in debt.

A man in debt, in danger, and in poverty ; or in gaol, indicted, and in danger of being hanged.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. iv. Paul became a GENTLEMAN OF THREE OUTS—out of pocket, out of elbows, and out of credit.

1834 H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, Bk. III., ch. v. Jerry Juniper was what the classical Captain Grose would designate A GENTLEMAN WITH THREE OUTS, and, although he was not entirely without wit, nor his associates avouched, without money, nor certainly, in his own opinion, bad that been asked, without manners.

GENTLEMAN OF THE BACK (or BACKDOOR), *subs. phr.* (old).—A sodomist. For synonyms, *see* USHER.

GENTLEMAN OF FORTUNE, *subs. phr.* (common). — An adventurer.

1890. R. L. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, p. 149. 'Why, in a place like this, where nobody puts in but GENTLEMEN OF FORTUNE, Silver would fly the jolly roger, you don't make no doubt of that.'

GENTLEMAN OF OBSERVATION, *subs. phr.* (turf).—A tout.

GENTLEMAN OF THE ROUND, *subs. phr.* (old).—An invalided or disabled soldier, making his living by begging.

1596. JONSON, *Every Man in*, etc., 2. Your decayed, ruinous, worme-eaten GENTLEMEN OF THE ROUND.

GENTLEMAN OF THE SHORT STAFF, *subs. phr.* (old). — A constable.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* (1889), p. 12. In the language of the

GENTLEMAN OF THE SHORT STAFF an important caption could be effected.

GENTLEMAN OF THE FIST, *subs. phr.* (pugilists').—A prize-fighter.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 44. Furnish such GENTLEMEN OF THE FIST.

GENTLEMAN IN BROWN, *subs. phr.* (common). — A bed bug. For synonyms, *see* NORFOLK HOWARD.

1885. G. A. SALA in *Daily Telegraph*, 14 Aug., 5/3. Bed bugs, the convertible term for which is 'chintzes,' are the disagreeable insects known in modern polite English as 'Norfolk Howards,' or GENTLEMEN IN BROWN.

THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN IN BROWN VELVET, *subs. phr.* (obsolete).—A mole. [The Tory toast after the death of William III., whose horse was said to have stumbled over a mole-hill.]

GENTLEMAN OF THE GREEN BAIZE ROAD, *subs. phr.* (gamesters').—A card sharper.

GENTLEMAN COMMONER, *subs. phr.* (University). — 1. A privileged class of commoners at Oxford, wearing a special cut of gown and a velvet cap.

2. (common). — An empty bottle. Also FELLOW-COMMONER (*q.v.*). [A sarcastic allusion to the mental capacity of this class of student.] For synonyms, *see* DEAD-MAN.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

GENTLEMAN-RANKER, *subs.* (military).—A broken gentleman serving in the ranks.

1892. KIPLING, *Barrack Room Balads*. 'Gentlemen Rankers.' GENTLEMAN-RANKERS out on the spree, Damned from here to eternity, God ha' mercy on such as we, Baa ! Yah ! Bah !

**GENTLEMAN'S COMPANION**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A louse. For synonyms, *see* CHATES.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GENTLEMAN'S MASTER**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A highwayman.—GROSE.

**GENTLEMAN'S (or LADIES') PIECE**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A small or delicate portion; a TIT-BIT.

**GENTLEMAN'S PLEASURE - GARDEN**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *puendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE. [Hence, GENTLEMAN'S PLEASURE - GARDEN PADLOCK = menstrual cloth.]

**GENTLEMEN'S SONS**, *subs. phr.* (common).—The three regiments of Guards.

**GENTLY** *intj.* ('stables' and colloquial).—An interjection = STAND STILL (*q.v.*); hence, colloquially, = don't get into a passion, GO SLOW (*q.v.*).

**GENTRY COVE (or COFE)**, *subs.* (old cant).—A gentleman; a NIB - COVE (*q.v.*). Fr., *un messire de la haute*.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, s.v.

1656. BROME, *Joviall Crew*, Act ii. For all this bene Cribbing and Peck let us then, Bowse a health to the GENTRY COFE of the Ken.

1654. WITTS' *Recreations*. As priest of the game, And prelate of the same. There's a GENTRY COVE here.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. Tour the bien mort twirling the GENTRY COVE.

1837. DISRAELI, *Venetia*, p. 71. The GENTRY COVE will be ramboyled by his dam.

**GENTRY COVE'S KEN (or GENTRY-KEN)**, *subs. phr.* (Old Cant).—A gentleman's house.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. A GENTRY COFE'S KEN, a noble or gentleman's house. A GENTRY COFE, a noble or gentle man.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GENTRY COVE'S KEN, a gentleman's house.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GENTRY MORT**, *subs. phr.* (old cant).—A lady.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. A GENTRY MORT, a noble or gentle woman.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GENTRY MORT, a gentlewoman.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GENUINE**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—Praise.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—Trustworthy; not false nor double-faced.

*Verb.* (Winchester College).—To praise. 'He was awfully quilled and GENUINED my task.' [Probably from calling a thing genuine. Cf., to blackguard, to lord, etc. But fifty years ago it was a *subs.* only.—*Notions*.]

**GEORDIE**, *subs.* (North Country).—1. A pitman; also, a Northumbrian in general.

2. (nautical).—A North Country collier.

3. *See* GEORGE.

**GEORGE** (or Scots' diminutive GEORDIE), *subs.* (old). 1.—A half crown. Also (obsolete), the noble = 6s. 8d., temp., Henry VIII



1688. SHADWELL, *Sq. of Alsatia*,  
*List of cant words.* GEORGE, half-a-  
crown.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*.  
He tipt me Forty GEORGES for my earnest,  
He paid me Five Pounds for my Share or  
Snack.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—A guinea; also more  
frequently YELLOW GEORGE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1787. BURNS, *The Two Dogs*. The  
YELLOW-lettered GEORDIE keeks.

3. (old).—A penny.

1820. REYNOLDS, *The Fancy*,  
Glossary. A Penny-piece—a GEORGY.

BROWN GEORGE.—See *Ante*.

BY FORE, or BY GEORGE.—  
See BY GEORGE.

GEORGE HORNE, *intj.* (printers').—  
A derisive retort on a piece of  
stale news. Also G. H. ! [From  
a romancing compositor of the  
name.]

GEORGY-PORGY, *verb* (colloquial).—  
To pet; to fondle; to be-  
slobber.

1883. R. L. STEVENSON, *The Treas-  
ure of Franchard*, ch. iii., in *Longman's  
Magazine*, April, p. 685. He must be  
spoken to with more respect, I tell you;  
he must not be kissed and GEORGY-PORGY'd  
like an ordinary child.

GERMAN. THE GERMAN, *subs. phr.*  
(New York).—A round dance.

GERMAN DUCK, *subs. phr.* (obsolete).  
—I. Half a sheep's head, stewed  
with onions.—GROSE.

2. (common).—A bed bug. For  
synonyms, see NORFOLK HOWARD.

GERMAN FLUTES, *subs. phr.*  
(rhyming).—A pair of boots.

GERMANTOWNER, *subs.* (American  
billiards').—A pushing shot—  
when the balls played with, and  
at, are jarred together. Cf.,  
WHITECHAPELLER.

GERRY, *subs.* (Old Cant).—Excre-  
ment.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, s.v.

GERRY GAN, *intj.* (Old Cant).—A  
retort forcible. STOW IT ! (*g. v.*).  
[From GERRY = excrement + GAN  
= mouth, *i.e.*, literally, Shit in  
your mouth.] The common form  
is : Shit (or a turd) in your teeth;  
as in BEN JONSON, *Bartholomew  
Fair*, 1614. Fr., *Tais ta gueule  
ou j'te chie dedans*.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*. GERRY  
GAN, the ruffian cly thee.

GERRYMANDER (pronounced with  
the 'g' hard, as in 'get'), *verb.*  
(political American).—To arrange  
the electoral subdivisions of a  
State to the profit and advantage  
of a particular party.

[The term, says Norton, is derived  
from the name of Governor Gerry, of  
Massachusetts, who, in 1811, signed a Bill  
readjusting the representative districts so  
as to favour the Democrats and weaken  
the Federalists, although the last-named  
party polled nearly two-thirds of the votes  
cast. A fancied resemblance of a map of  
the districts thus treated led Stuart, the  
painter, to add a few lines with his pencil,  
and say to Mr. Russell, editor of the  
*Boston Sentinel*, 'That will do for a  
Salamander.' Russell glanced at it:  
'Salamander,' said he, 'call it a GERRY-  
MANDER !' The epithet took at once, and  
became a Federalist war-cry, the  
caricature being published as a campaign  
document.]

1871. *Boston Daily Advertiser*,  
6 Dec. GERRIMANDER was the name  
printed under a picture of a pretended  
monster, whose shape was modified from  
the distorted geography which Mr.  
Gerry's friends inflicted on part of the  
State for the sake of economizing  
majorities.

**GERRYMANDERING**, *subs.* (political American). See GERRYMANDER.

1872. *New York Sunday Mercury*, 31 March. The Legislature of Ohio intends to prove itself a veritable master in the GERRYMANDERING business.

1890. *Athenæum*, 22 Feb. p. 23 8, c. 1. Whatever faults can be found with Sir John's administration, it has been good and successful enough to afford excuse for all the GERRYMANDERING with which he is charged by his critics.

1891. *Belfort's Mag.*, Aug., p. 439. The Democrats of Michigan have carried the art of GERRYMANDERING to such an extent that they have thoroughly disgusted their opponents.

**GERUND-GRINDER**, *subs.* (common).—A schoolmaster, especially a pedant. Also GERUND-GRINDING.

1759-67. STERNE *Tristram Shandy*, iv., 112. Tutors, governors, GERUND-GRINDERS, and bear-leaders.

1783. KNOX, *Winter Evenings*, 59. A pedant, a mere plodder, a petty tyrant, a GERUND-GRINDER.

1825-7. HONE, *Every Day Book*, II., p. 33. GERUND-GRINDING and parsing are usually prepared for at the last moment.

**GET**, *subs.* (old).—I. A cheating contrivance; a HAVE (*q.v.*).

2. (old).—A child; the result, that is, of an act of procreation or begetting. Thus, ONE OF HIS GETS = one of his making; WHOSE GET IS THAT? = Who's the father? It's his GET, anyhow = At all events he GOT it.

1570. SCOTTISH TEXT SOCIETY, *Satirical Poems*, I., 171, 'Treason of Dumbarton' (1891). Ganelon's GETS, relics of Sinon's seed.

d1796. BURNS, *Merry Muses*. 'For a' that, O' bastard GETTS some had a score, An' some had mair than a' that.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 41. This, again, is unusual for a Chester, as his GET are generally quiet and docile, but a bit lazy.

GET! (or YOU GET!) *intj.* (American).—Short for GET OUT! Usually, GIT! (*q.v.*).

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 176. None of your damned impertinence. Get!

TO GET AT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—I. To quiz; to banter; to aggravate; to take a rise out of. Also TO GET BACK AT.

1891. *Sloper's Half Holiday*, 3 Jan. 'Your family don't seem to get on, missie.' 'On!' replied the child, with dignity flashing from her great blue eyes; 'on! I've got a father on the booze, a sister on the music 'all, an' a brother on the treadmill. On! who're ye GETTIN' AT?'

2. (racing and colloquial).—To influence; to bribe; to nobble (of horses), and to corrupt (of persons); applied to horse, owner, trainer, jockey, and vet. alike.

1870. *Spectator*, 23 April. That, of course, makes it profitable for owners to withdraw horses they have secretly betted against, and for scoundrels to GET AT horses.

1871. *Saturday Review*, 9 Sept. It is quite clear that some of the foreign working men have been GOT AT.

1883. *Graphic*, 17 March, p. 262, c. 2. The House of Commons . . . can also be trusted to decide in local questions without any suspicion of being GOT AT, as is sometimes the case elsewhere.

1883. BADMINTON LIBRARY, *Steeple-chasing*, p. 404. Suspicions that the mare had been GOT AT, that is to say, drugged, were afterwards noised abroad.

1888. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 Nov. It was strongly suspected that he had been GOT AT.

1890. *Globe*, 11 Aug., p. 1, c. 1. Fancy the professional agitator trying to GET AT such men as these—men who gloried in being soldiers and nothing else!

1892. *Pail Mall Gazette*, May 10, p. 3, c. 2. The scoundrels (verily of the lowest form) who have tried to GET AT Orme.

1892. *National Observer*, vii. 630. If the horse were GOT AT, then a bookie who stood heavily to lose is probably assumed.

TO GET ABOUT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To do the act of intro-mission. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

TO GET BACK AT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To satirise; to call to account.

1888. *Daily Inter-Ocean*. The newspapers are GETTING BACK at Sam.

GET BACK INTO YOUR BOX! *phr.* (American).—An injunction to silence; STOW IT! (*q.v.* for synonyms).

TO GET ENCORED, *verb. phr.* (tailors').—To have a job returned for alterations.

TO GET EVEN WITH, *verb. phr.* (common).—To take one's revenge; to give tit for tat.

TO GET IT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be punished (morally or physically); to be called over the coals. Also (venery) to catch a clap.

TO GET OFF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To (1) escape punishment, to be let off; (2) to utter, to deliver oneself of, to perpetrate—as to get off a joke; and (3) to get married.

TO GET ON, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To back a horse; to put a BIT ON (*q.v.*).

2. (colloquial).—To succeed; or, simply, to fare. Thus, HOW ARE YOU GETTING ON? may signify (1) To what extent are you prospering? or (2) How are you doing?

1871. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 29 Dec. That great Anglo-Saxon passion of rising in the world, or GETTING ON—that is, rising into the class above him.

1892. A. W. PINERO, *The Times: a Comedy*, v. 1. We used to go very early to such places and stay right through, now that papa has GOT ON, we arrive late everywhere and murmur an apology!

TO GET ONE IN THE COLD, *verb. phr.* (American).—To have at an advantage; to be on the WINDWARD SIDE (*q.v.*); TO HAVE ON TOAST (*q.v.*).

TO GET ONE ON, *verb. phr.* (pugilists').—To land a blow.

TO GET DOWN FINE (OR CLOSE), *verb. phr.* (American).—To know all about one's antecedents; and (police) to know where to find one's man.

TO GET INTO, *verb. phr.* (venery).—TO OCCUPY (*q.v.*). Also TO GET IN and TO GET UP. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.*, p. 197. GETT vp againe, Billy, if that thou louest me.

TO GET OVER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To seduce, to fascinate, to dupe. Also TO COME OVER and TO GET ROUND.

TO GET OUTSIDE OF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To eat or drink; also to accomplish one's purpose.

1892. S. WATSON, *Wops the Waif*, p. 9. Tickle urged Wops again and again to drink, but Wops's only reply was, 'Yer go on, Tickle; git OUTSIDE the lot, if yer can; it'll do yer good, Cully.'

2. (venery).—To receive the sexual embrace: of women only.

TO GET OUT OF BED ON THE WRONG SIDE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be testy or cross-grained. [A corruption of an old saying, 'To rise on the right side is accounted lucky'; hence the reverse meant trials to temper, patience, and luck.]

1607. MARSTON, *What You Will*. You RISE ON YOUR RIGHT SIDE to-day, marry.

1608. MACHIN, *Dumb Knight*, iv., 1. Sure I said my prayers, RIS'D ON MY RIGHT side, Wash'd hands and eyes, put on my



girdle last; Sure I met no splea-footed baker, No hare did cross me, nor no bearded witch, Nor other ominous sign

1614. *Terence in English*. C. What doth shee keepe house alreadie? D. Alreadie. C. O good God!; WE ROSE ON THE RIGHT SIDE to-day.

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, i. *Women Pleased*. You ROSE O' YOUR RIGHT SIDE.

1890. *Globe*, 15 May, p. 2, col. 2. Some of them had—if we may employ such a vulgar expression—GOT OUT OF BED ON THE WRONG SIDE.

TO GET OUT (or ROUND), *verb. phr.* (racing).—To back a horse against which one has previously laid; to HEDGE (*q.v.*).

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 313. He had an idea Johnson was this time cleverly working a very well authorised commission, and that he personally had taken more than one opportunity of what is termed GETTING OUT.

TO GET SET, *verb. phr.* (cricket-ing).—I. To warm to one's work at the wicket, and collar the bowling; to get one's eye well in.

TO GET THERE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To attain one's object; to be successful; TO MAKE ONE'S JACK (*q.v.*); TO GET THERE WITH BOTH FEET = to be very successful.

1887. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Mocassin*. He said as he'd been gambling, and was two hundred dollars ahead of the town. He GOT THERE WITH BOTH FEET at starting.

1888. *New York Herald*, 29 July. Although not a delegate he GOT THERE all the same.

2. (common).—To get drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

3. (venery).—To enjoy the sexual favour.

TO GET THROUGH, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To pass an examination; to accomplish.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verd. Green*, II. ch. xii. So you see, Giglamps, I'm safe to GET THROUGH.

TO GET UP AND DUST, *verb. phr.* (American).—To depart hastily. For synonyms, see SKEDADDLE and AMPUTATE.

TO GET UP BEHIND (or GET BEHIND) A MAN, *verb. phr.* (common).—To endorse or back a bill.

1880. *Life in a Debtor's Prison*, p. 87. In other cases he figured as the drawer, or simply as endorser. This, Mr. Whipper described as GETTING UP BEHIND.

TO GET UP THE MAIL, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To find money (as counsels' fees, etc.) for defence.

1880. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*, 322, s.v.

[Get enters into many other combinations. See BACK TEETH; BAG or SACK; BEAD; BEANS; BEAT; BIG BIRD and GOOSE; BIG HEAD; BILLET; BIT; BOAT; BOLT; BOOKS; BULGE; BULLET; BULL'S FEATHER; CROCKETS; DANDER and MONKEY; DARK; DROP; EYE; FLANNELS; FLINT; GAME; GRAND BOUNCE; GRAVEL - RASH; GRIND; GRINDSTONE; HAND; HANG; HAT; HEAD; HIP or HOP; HOME; HORN; HOT; JACK; KEEN; LENGTH OF ONE'S FOOT; MEASURE; MITTEN; NEEDLE; RELIGION; RISE; RUN; SCOT, SWOT, or SCRAPE; SET; SHUT OF; SILK; SNUFF; STRAIGHT; SUN; TICKET OF LEAVE; WOOL; WRONG BOX.]

GETAWAY, *subs.* (American thieves').—A locomotive or train; a PUFFER (*q.v.*).

GETTER. A SURE GETTER, *subs. phr.* (Scots).—A procreant male with a great capacity for fertilization.

**GET-UP**, *subs.* (colloquial). — 1. Dress; constitution and appearance; disguise. See **GET-UP**, *verb*, sense 1.

1856. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Kate Coventry*, ch. xiv. Is that killing **GET UP** entirely for your benefit, John? I asked.

1865. G. A. SALA, *Trip to Barbary*, ch. x. Altogether the **GET UP** of a Mauresque *en promenade* is livelier and smarter than that of a Turkish woman.

1866. G. ELIOT, *Felix Holt*, ch. xii. The graceful, well-appointed Mr. Christian, who sneered at Scales about his **GET UP**, having to walk back to the house with only one tail to his coat.

1882. *Graphic*, 9 Dec., p. 643, c. 2. Comic **GETS UP**, which will make the house roar presently, are elaborated with the business air of a judge in *banc*, or a water-rate collector.

1889. *Mirror*, 26 Aug., p. 2, c. 1. I cannot, however, congratulate F. C. G. on his sketch of Blowitz; it isn't much like the great man, and the **GET UP** is quite too absurd.

1890. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 Feb., p. 7, col. 7. Dressed as a *copurchic*, and, giving himself out as an Italian count—thinking to entrap some Transatlantic heiress by his title, fascinating appearance, and gorgeous **GET UP**.

*Verb. phr.* (colloquial).—(1). To prepare (a part, a paper, a case); (2) to arrange (a concert); (3) to dress (as **GOT UP REGARDLESS**, **TO THE NINES**, **TO THE KNOCKER**, **TO KILL**, **WITHIN AN INCH OF ONE'S LIFE**); (4) to disguise (as a sailor, a soldier, Henry VIII., a butcher, a nun). See also **GET INTO**.

1828. L. HUNT, *Essays* (Camelot ed.), p. 13. The pocket-books that now contain any literature are **GOT UP**, as the phrase is, in the most unambitious style.

1856. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Kate Coventry*, ch. xviii. Three very gentleman-like, good-looking men, **GOT UP** to the utmost extent of hunting splendour.

1864. *Eton School Days*, ch. xviii., p. 207. He felt confident in his power of **GETTING UP** so that no one would recognise him.

1866. *New York Home Journal*, Jan. While that admirable old dame, Nature, has been strangely neglectful of much which might be conducive to our comfort, she has **GOTTEN UP**, **REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE**, a few articles which are good for some purposes, as the witty Hood has told us.

1871. *London Figaro*, 11 Mar. It is **GOT UP** very much in the style of the Paris journals, and is very inferior compared with any respectable journal in England.

1889. *Polytechnic Magazine*, 24 Oct., p. 261. He came specially **GOT UP** in piebald trousers.

1892. CHEVALIER. 'The Little Nipper.' I've knowed 'im take a girl on six feet tall; 'E'd git 'IMSELF UP dossy, Say 'I'm goin' out wi' Flossie.'

**G.H.** See **GEORGE HORNE**.

**GHASTLY**, *adj.* and *adv.* (colloquial).—Very: a popular insensitive; *Cf.*, **AWFUL**, **BLOODY**, **FUCKING**.

**GHOST**, *subs.* (common). — One who secretly does artistic or literary work for another person taking the credit and receiving the price. [The term was frequently used during the trial of *Lawes v. Belt* in 188(?)]. *Cf.*, **DEVIL**.

1890. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 Feb. The sculptor's **GHOST** is conjured up from the vasty deep of bygone lawsuits.

1892. *National Observer*, vii., 327. Would not the unkind describe your 'practical man' as a **GHOST**?

*Verb.* (common).—To prowl; to spy upon; **TO SHADOW** (*q.v.*).

**THE GHOST WALKS** (or **DOES NOT WALK**) *phr.* (theatrical). — There is (or is not) money in the treasury.

1853. *Household Words*, No. 183. When no salaries are forthcoming the **GHOST DOESN'T WALK**.

1883. *Referee*, 24 June, p. 3, c. 2. An Actor's Benevolent Fund box placed on the treasurer's desk every day when THE GHOST WALKS would get many an odd shilling or sixpence put into it.

1885. *The Stage*, p. 112. The rogues seldom appear at a loss for a plausible story when it is time for the GHOST to WALK. *Ibid.* The next day THE GHOST DECLINES TO WALK.

1889. J. C. COLMAN (in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*), p. 405. GHOST-WALKING, a term originally applied by an impecunious stroller in a sharing company to the operation of 'holding the treasury,' or paying the salaries, which has become a stock facetiae among all kinds and descriptions of actors. Instead of enquiring whether the treasury is open, they generally say—'Has the GHOST WALKED?' or 'What, has this thing appeared again?' (Shakspeare).

1890. *Illustrated Bits*, 29 Mar., p. 11, c. 1. And a few nights with empty benches LAID THE GHOST completely. It could not even WALK to the tune of quarter salaries.

THE GHOST OF A CHANCE, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—The faintest likelihood, or the slightest trace: *e.g.*, He hasn't THE GHOST OF A CHANCE.

1891. *Sportsman*, 26 Mar. He did not give THE GHOST OF A CHANCE.

GHoul, *subs.* (American).—1. A spy; specifically a man who preys on such married women as addict themselves to assignation houses.

2. (journalistic).—A newspaper chronicler of the smallest private tittle-tattle.

GIB, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. Gibraltar. Once a penal station: whence—2. A gaol.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. lii., p. 221. I did a lagging of seven, and was at the GIB three out of it.

1892. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 23 Mar., p. 6, c. 1. 'Stormy Weather at GIB.' The weather here has been fearful; 51 inches of rain have been registered, and

the land for miles round Gibraltar is submerged.

TO HANG ONE'S GIB, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To pout. See JIB.

GIBBERISH (or GEBBERISH, GIBBERIDGE, GIBRIGE, etc.), *subs.* (old: now recognised).—Originally the lingo of gipsies, beggars, etc. Now, any kind of inarticulate nonsense. [From GIBBER, a variant of JABBER.] See CANT, SLANG, PEDLAR'S FRENCH, etc.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Traveller*, in wks., v., 68. That all cried out upon him mightily in their GIBRIGE, lyke a companie of beggers.

1598. FLORIO, *Worlde of Wordes*. *Gergare*, to speak fustian, pedlers french, or rogues language, or GIBBRISH.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionary*. *Jargon*, GIBBRIDGE fustian language, pedler s French, a barbarus jangling.

1638. H. SHIRLEY, *Martyr'd Souldier*, Act iii., Sc. 4. Feele my pulse once again and tell me, Doctor, Tell me in tearmes that I may understand.—I doe not love your GIBBERISH,—tell me honestly Where the Cause lies, and give a Remedy.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GIBBERISH (s.) an unintelligible jargon, or confused way of speaking, used by the gipsies, beggars, etc., to disguise their wicked designs; also any discourse where words abound more than sense.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Rod. Random*, ch. xxx. He repeated some GIBBERISH which by the sound seemed to be Irish.

1817. SCOTT, *Rob Roy*, ch. viii. Since that d—d clerk of mine has taken his GIBBERISH elsewhere.

1850. D. JERROLD *The Catspaw* Act i. Odds and ends . . . writ down in such a kind of GIBBERISH that I can't make out one of 'em.

1858. G. ELIOT, *Mr. Gilfil's Love Story*, ch. iv. It'll learn to speak summatt better nor GIBBERISH, an' be brought up i' the true religion.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 129. It was Fo'c's'le Jack that piped and drawled his ungrammatical GIBBERISH.



**GIBBLE-GABBLE**, *subs.* (colloquial).

—Nonsense; GIBBERISH (*q.v.*).

[Areduplication of GABBLE (*q.v.*).]

1600. DEKKER, *Shoemaker's Holiday*, in wks. (1873) i., 21. Hee's some uplandish workman, hire him good master, That I may learne some GIBBLE GABBLE, 'twill make us worke the faster.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GIBBLE-GABBLE (s), silly, foolish, idle talk.

**GIB-CAT**, *subs.* (old).—A tom-cat.

[An abbreviation of Gilbert = O.

Fr.: *Tibert*, the cat in the fable of Reynard the Fox.]

1360. CHAUCER, *Romaunt of the Rose*, 6204 (*Thibert le Cas* is rendered by GIBBE, our cat).

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry IV.*, Act i., Sc. 2. I am as melancholy as a GIB-CAT.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, i., 1. Before I endure such another day with him, I'll be drawn with a good GIB-CAT through the great pond at home.

1663. *Rump Songs*. 'Rump Carbonadoed,' ii., 71. As if they had less wit and grace than GIB-CATS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GIBE**, *verb.* (American).—To go well with; to be acceptable. See GEE.

**GIBEL**, *verb.* (thieves').—To bring.

1837. DISRAELI, *Venetia*, bk. i., ch. xiv. GIBEL the chive, bring the knife.

**GIB-FACE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A heavy jowl; an UGLY-MUG (*q.v.*). Cf., TO HANG ONE'S GIB.

**GIBLETS**, *subs.* (common).—1. The intestines generally; the MANIFOLD (*q.v.*). Cf., TROUBLE-GIBLETS.

1864. BROWNING, *Dramatis Personæ*. 'Flight of the Duchess.' Is pumped up briskly through the main ventricle, And floats me genially round the GIBLETS.

2. (colloquial).—A fat man; FORTY-GUTS (*q.v.*). Also DUKE OF GIBLETS.

TO JOIN GIBLETS, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. Also TO HAVE OR DO A BIT OF GIBLET-PIE. For synonyms, see RIDE. Hence to cohabit as husband and wife; TO LIVE TALLY. Cf., PLASTER OF WARM GUTS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1887. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S., iv., 511. 'TO JOIN GIBLETS.'—This expression may occasionally be heard in this district, among the lowest and vulgarest, and has a very offensive meaning.

TO FRET ONE'S GIBLETS, *verb. phr.*—See FRET.

**GIBRALTAR**, *subs.* (American).—A party stronghold; e.g., the GIBRALTAR of Democracy.—NORTON.

**GIBSON** (or SIR JOHN GIBSON), *subs.* (old coachbuilders').—A rest to support the body of a building coach.

**GIBUS**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. An opera, or crush hat. Fr., *un accordéon*. [From the name of the inventor.]

1867. JAS. GREENWOOD, *Unsent Journeys*, iii., 21. West-End aristocrats, with spotless jean coats and GIBUS hats.

1871. *Figaro*, 2 Sept. Much fun may be made by wearing a GIBUS, and collapsing it at the moment of contact with the funnel.

1885. *Punch*, 4 Apr., p. 160. Giving his comic, shiny, curly-brimmed hat to the swell who couldn't by any possible chance have mistaken it for his own GIBUS.

1887. ATKIN, *House Scraps*, p. 144. Their GIBUS hats are cock'd awry.

**GIDDY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Flighty; wanton: *e.g.*, TO PLAY THE GIDDY GOAT = to live a fast life; to be happy-go-lucky.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 19 Mar., p. 91, c. 2. Fanny Robinson was flighty; she PLAYED THE GIDDY OX—I mean heifer.

**GIFFLE-GAFFLE**, *subs.* (old).—Non-sense; a variant of GIBBLE-GABBLE (*q.v.*).

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*. GIFF-GAFF, unpremeditated discourse.

**GIF - GAF** (or **GIFF - GAFF**), *subs.* (Scots').—A bargain on equal terms. Whence the proverb: GIF-GAF maks guid friens. Fr.: *Passe-moi la casse et je t'enverrai la senne*.

**GIFT**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. Anything lightly gained or easily won.

2. (common).—A white speck on the finger nails, supposed to portend a gift.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

3. (printers').—See GIFT-HOUSE.

AS FULL OF GIFTS AS A BRAZEN HORSE OF FARTS, *phr.* (old).—Mean; miserly; disinclined to PART (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

GIFT OF THE GAB.—See GAB.

**GIFT-HOUSE** (or **GIFT**), *subs.* (printers').—A club; a house of call; specifically for the purpose of finding employment, or providing allowances for members.

**GIG** (**GIGG**, **GIGGE**), *subs.* (old).—1. a wanton; a mistress; a flighty girl. Cf., GIGLET.

1373. CHAUCER, *House of Fame*, iii. 851. This house was also ful of GYGES.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*. A young GIG, a wanton lass.

1780. D'ARBLEY, *Diary*, etc., (1876), i., 286. Charlotte L.—called, and the little GIG told . . . of the domestic life she led in her family, and made them all ridiculous, without meaning to make herself so.

1825. PLANCHÉ, *Success in Extravaganzas* (1879), I., 26. He! he! What a GIG you look in that hat and feather!

1832. MACAULAY in *Life*, by TREVELYAN (1884), ch. v., p. 188. Be you Foxes, be you Pitts, You must write to silly chits, Be you Tories, be you Whigs, You must write to sad young GIGS.

2. (old).—A jest; a piece of nonsense; anything fanciful or frivolous. Hence, generally, in contempt.

1590. NASHE, *Pasquil's Apologie*, in wks. Vol. I., p. 234. A right cutte of the worde, withoute GIGGES or fancies of haereticall and newe opinions.

1793. BUTT, *Poems*. . . Fograms, quizzes, treats, and bores, and GIGS, Were held in some account with ancient prigs.

1856. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Kate Coventry*, ch. xiv. Such a set of GIGS, my dear, I never saw in my life; large underbred horses, and not a good-looking man amongst them.

3. (old).—The nose. For synonyms, see CONK. To SNITCHELL THE GIG = to pull the nose. GRUNTER'S GIG = a hog's snout.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

4. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. [Possibly from GIG = a top, *i.e.*, a toy; possibly, too, from It. *giga* = a FIDDLE (*q.v.*); but see *post* sense 8.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

5. (old : now recognised).—A light two-wheeled vehicle drawn by one horse.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1809. WINDHAM, *Speech*, 25 May. Let the former riders in GIGS and whiskeys, and one horsed carriages continue to ride in them.

6. (old). — A door. See GIGGER.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. It is all bob, now let's dub the GIGG of the case : now the coast is clear, let us break open the door of the house.

7. (Eton).—A fool ; an over-dressed person. For synonyms, see SAMMY-SOFT.

1797. COLMAN, *Heir at Law*, iv., 3. *Dick*.—What a damn'd GIG you look like. *Pangloss*.—A GIG ! umph ! that's an Eton phrase — the Westminsters call it Quiz.

1870. *Athenæum*, 16 Apr. He would now be what Eton used to call a GIG, and Westminster a Quiz.

8. (old).—Fun ; a frolic ; a spree. [Possibly from Fr. : *gigue* = a lively dance movement. Cf., *gigue et jon* = a Bacchanalian exclamation of sailors. In Florio, too, *frottolare* = 'to sing GIGGES, rounds, or . . . wanton verses.'] FULL OF GIG = full of laughter, ripe for mischief.

1811. MOORE, *Twopenny Post-bag*, Letter 3. We were all in high GIG—Roman punch and tokay travelled round, till our heads travelled just the same way.

1820. RANDALL, *Diary*. In search of lark, or some delicious GIG, The mind delights on, when 'tis in prime twig.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, i., 3. I hope we shall have many a bit of GIG together.

1888. BESANT, *Fifty Years Ago*, p. 134. A laughter-loving lass of eighteen who dearly loved a bit of GIG.

9. (old).—The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1871. *Finish to Tom and Jerry*, p. 175 [ed. 1872]. The bit of myrtle in his GIG.

10. (old).—A farthing. Formerly GRIG (*q.v.*).

11. American).—See POLICY DEALING.

*Verb.* (old).—To hamstring.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. To GIGG a Smithfield hank, to hamstring an overdrove ox.

By GIGS ! *intj.* (old). — A mild and silly oath. See OATHS.

1551. *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, ii., 51. Chad a foule turne now of late, chill tell it you, BY GIGS !

GIGAMAREE, *subs.* (American).—A thing of little worth ; a pretty but useless toy ; a GIMCRACK (*q.v.*).

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. 9. Byin' fineries and northern GIGAMAREES of one kind or another.

*Ibid.* I ax'd the captain what sort of a GIGAMAREE he had got up there for a flag.

GIGANTOMACHIZE, *verb.* (old). — To rise in revolt against one's betters. Gr., *Gigantomachia* = the War of the Giants against the Gods. [Probably a coinage of Ben Jonson's.]

1599. JONSON, *Every Man Out*, Act v., 4. Slight, fed with it the whoreson, strummel-patched, goggle-eyed grumble-dores would have GIGANTOMACHIZED their Maker.

GIGGER, *subs.* (tailors') — 1. A sewing machine. (In allusion to noise and movement).

2. See JIGGER.

GIGGLES-NEST. HAVE YOU FOUND A GIGGLES-NEST ? *phr.* (old). — Asked of a person titterering, or one who laughs immoderately and senselessly.



**GIG-LAMPS**, *subs.* (common).—I. Spectacles. For synonyms, see BARNACLES.

1848. BRADLEY, in *Letter to J. C. H.* GIG-LAMPS (certainly a university term. I first heard it in 1848 or 1849, long before Mr. Verdant Green was born or thought of).

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. ii., p. 140. You with the GIG-LAMPS, throw us your cigar.

1887. *Punch*, 30 July, p. 45. Jack's a straw-thatched young joker in GIG-LAMPS.

1892. F. ANSTAY, *Voces Populi*. 'At the Tudor Exhibition.' Stop, though, suppose she *has* spotted me? Never can tell with GIGLAMPS.

2. (common).—One who wears spectacles; a FOUR EYES (*q.v.*). [Popularised by Verdant Green.]

**GIGLER** (or **GIGLET**, **GOGLET**, **GIGLE**, **GIG**), *subs.* (old).—A wanton; a mistress. **GIGLET** (West of England) = a giddy, romping girl; and in Salop a flighty person is called a GIGGLE. *Cf.*, **GIG**, sense 1.

1533. UDAL, *Floures for Latine Spekyng*, fo. 101. What is the matter, foolish GIGLOTTE? What meanest thou? Whereat laughest thou?

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, leaf 22, back. Therefore let us assemble secretly into the place where he hath appoynted to meet this GYLEOT that is at your house.

1603. SHAKESPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, v., 1. Let him speak no more: away with those GIGLOTS too, and with the other confederate companion.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*. *Gadrouillette*, minx, GIGLE, flirt.

1620. MASSIENGER, *Fatal Downry*, Act. iii. If this be The recompence of striving to preserve A wanton GIGLET honest, very shortly 'Twill make all mankind pandars.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. **GIGGLERS**, wanton women.

*Adj.* (old).—Loose in word and deed. Also GIGLET-LIKE,

and GIGLET-WISE = like a wanton.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry IV.*, Act v., Sc. 1. Young Talbot was not born To be the pillage of a GIGLOT wench.

1600. FAIRFAX, *Jerusalem Delivered*, vi., 72. That thou wilt gad by night in GIGLET-WISE, Amid thine armed foes to seek thy shame.

**GILD**, *verb.* (old).—To make drunk; to flush with drink.

1609. SHAKESPEARE, *Tempest*, Act v., Sc. 1. This grand liquor that hath GILDED them.

1620. FLETCHER, *Chances*, iv., 3. Is she not drunk, too? A little GILDED o'er, sir.

To GILD THE PILL, *phr.* (colloquial).—To say, or do, unpleasant things as gently as may be; to impose upon; to BAM-BOOZLE (*q.v.*).

**GILDED ROOSTER**, *subs. phr.* (American).—A man of importance; a HOWLING SWELL (*q.v.*); sometimes THE GILDED ROOSTER ON THE TOP OF THE STEEPLE. *Cf.*, BIG-BUG; BIG DOG OF THE TANYARD, etc.

1888. *New York Herald*. We admit that as a metropolis Chicago is the GILDED ROOSTER ON TOP OF THE STEEPLE, but even GILDED ROOSTERS have no right to the whole corn bin.

**GILDEROY'S KITE**. To BE HUNG HIGHER THAN GILDEROY'S KITE, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be punished more severely than the very worst criminals. 'The greater the crime the higher the gallows' was at one time a practical legal axiom. Hence, out of sight; completely gone.

**GILES' GREEK**. See ST. GILES' GREEK.

**GILGUY**, *subs.* (nautical). — Anything which happens to have slipped the memory; equivalent to WHAT'S-HIS-NAME OR THINGA-MYTIGHT.

**GILKES**, *subs.* (old). — Skeleton keys.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GILKES for the Gigger, false keyes for the doore or picklocks.

**GILL** (or **JILL**), *subs.* (old). — 1. A girl; (2) a sweetheart: *e.g.*, 'every Jack must have his GILL'; (3) a wanton, a strumpet (an abbreviation of GILLIAN). For synonyms, *see* JOMER and TITTER.

1586-1606. WARNER, *Albion's England*, bk. vii., ch. 37. The simplest GILL or knave.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, *Palandrina*, a common queane, a harlot, a strumpet, a GILL.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MSS.*, p. 104. There is neuer a Jacke for GILL.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

2. (common). — a drink; a GO (*q.v.*).

1785. BURNS, *Scots Drink*. Haill breeks, a scone, and WHISKY GILL.

3. *in. pl.* 'g' hard (colloquial). — The mouth or jaws; the face. *See* POTATO-TRAP and DIAL.

1622. BACON, *Historia Naturalis*. Redness about the cheeks and GILLS.

1632. JONSON, *Magnetic Lady*, i. He . . . draws all the parish wills, Designs the legacies, and strokes the GILLS of the chief mourners.

b. 1738. WOLCOT, *Pindar's Works* (1809), i., 8. Whether you look all rosy round the GILLS, Or hatchet-fac'd like starving cats so lean.

1820. LAMB, *Elia* (*Two Races of Men*). What a careless, even deportment bath your borrower! what rosy GILLS!

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. viii. Binnie, as brisk and rosy about the GILLS as chanticleer, broke out in a morning salutation.

1884. *Punch*. He went a bit red in the GILLS.

4. *in. pl.* (common). — A very large shirt collar; also STICK-UPS and SIDEBOARDS. *Fr.*: *cache-bonbon-à-liqueur* = a stick-up.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, 6 p., in Part 7. With a red face, shaven to the superlative degree of shininess, with GILLS white and tremendous, with a noble white waistcoat.

1884. *Daily Telegraph*, July 8, p. 5, c. 4. Lord Macaulay wore, to the close of his life, 'stick-ups,' or GILLS.

TO GREASE THE GILLS. — *verb phr.* (common). — To have a good meal; TO WOLF (*q.v.*).

TO LOOK BLUE (or QUEER, or GREEN) ABOUT THE GILLS, *verb. phr.* (common). — To be downcast or dejected; also to suffer from the effects of a debauch. Hence, conversely, TO BE ROSY ABOUT THE GILLS = to be cheerful.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. ii. Most of them were very white and BLUE IN THE GILLS when we sat down, and others of a dingy sort of whitey-brown, while they ogled the viands in a most suspicious manner.

1892. G. MANVILLE FENN, *Witness to the Deed*, ch. ii. You look precious seedy. WHITE ABOUT THE GILLS.

A CANT (or DIG) IN THE GILLS, *phr.* (pugilists'). — A punch in the face. *See* BANG.

**GILL-FLIRT**, *subs.* (old). — A wanton; a flirt. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK HACK and TART.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionary*. *Gaultiere*, a whore, punke, drab, queane, GILL FLIRT.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. A proud minx.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GILLY**, *subs.* (American).—A fool. For synonyms, see **BUFFLE** and **CABBAGE-HEAD**.

**GILLY-GAUPUS**, *subs. phr.* (Scots).—A tall loutish fellow.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GILT**, *subs.* (popular).—1. Money. [Ger. : *Geld*.; Du. : *Gelt*.]

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Add to those under **ACTUAL** :—Charms ; checks ; cole or coal ; colliander seeds ; corn in Egypt ; crap ; darby ; dots ; ducats ; gingerbread ; kelter ; lowie ; luries ; moss ; oil of palms ; palm-oil ; peck ; plums ; rhino ; rivets ; salt ; sawdust ; scad ; screen ; scuds ; shigs ; soap ; spoon ; steven ; sugar ; tea-spoons ; tinie.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Le gault* (popular) ; *Podeur de gousset* (obsolete) ; *Ponguent* (= palm grease, Sp., *unguento* ; the simile is common to most languages) ; *le morlingue* (thieves') ; *la menouille* (popular) ; *le michon* (thieves' : from *miche*, a loaf, *cf.*, **LOAVER**) ; *les monacos* (popular) ; *le monarque* (prostitutes' : primarily a five franc piece) ; *le blé* = corn or loaver) ; *les étoffes* (thieves').

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Lalana* (= wool) ; *la morusa* (colloquial) ; *la mosca* (= the flies) ; *lo numerario* ; *la pelusa* (= down) ; *lo zurraco* (colloquial) ; *lo unguento de Mejico* (= Mexican Grease) ; *a' toca teja* (colloquial : ready money) ; *caire*.

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Cucchi* ; *cuchieri* ; *cucchielli* ; *lugani*.

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Fuchs* (= fox : an allusion to the ruddy hue of gold pieces ; *fuxig* or *fuxern* = golden, red ; *fuchsmelochener* = goldsmith) ; *gips* or *gyps* (Viennese thieves' , from the Latin, *gypsum*) ; *hora* (= ready-money : from the Hebrew *heren*) ; *kall* (Han : especially small change : from Heb. *kal* = lowly light) ; *kis*, *kies*, *kiss* (applied both to money in general and the receptacle or purse in which it is carried) ; *lowe*, *love* (Han.) ; *mepaie* (from the Fr., *payer*) *mesumme*, *linke mesumme* = counterfeit money) ; *moos* (from Heb., *mō* = a little stone) ; *pick*, *picht*, or *pech* ; *staub* (= dust).

1599. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V.*, Act ii. *Chorus*. These corrupted men . . . have for the GILT of France (O guilt, indeed) Confirmed conspiracy.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 9. And from thence conducted (provided he has GILT) over the way to Hell.

1885. *Daily News*, 25 May, p. 3, c. 1. Disputatious like mobs grouped together to discuss whether Charrington or Crowder had the most GILT.

2. *subs.* (old).—A thief ; a pick-lock ; also GILT- or RUM-DUBBER, GILTER, etc.

1669. *Nicker Nicked* in *Harl. Misc.* (ed. Park), ii., 108 (given in list of names of thieves).

1673. *Character of a Quack Astrologer*. For that purpose he maintains as strict a correspondence with GILTS and lifters.

1676. *Warning for Housekeepers*, p. 3. The GILTER is one that hath all sorts of picklocks and false keys.

1680. COTTON, *Complete Gamester*, p. 333. Shoals of muffs, hectors, setters, GILTS, pads, biters, etc. . . . may all pass under the general appellation of snobs.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.



1882. McCABE, *New York*, ch. xxxiv., 509. GILT-DUBBER, a hotel thief.

3. (thieves'). — Formerly a pick-lock or skeleton key; now a crow-bar. For synonyms, see JEMMY.

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, Pt. 1, ch. v., p. 50 (1874). GILT, a pick-lock.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* GILT, c. a pick-lock.

1839. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard*, p. 183 (ed. 1840). We shall have the whole village upon us while you're striking the jigger. Use the GILT, man!

TO TAKE THE GILT OFF THE GINGERBREAD, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To destroy an illusion; to discount heavily.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 171. You see we had a rattling good year all round last, bar the Dancing Master. He TOOK THE GILT OFF THE GINGERBREAD considerably.

GILT-DUBBER, see GILT, sense 2.

GILT-EDGED, *adj.* (American). — First-class; the best of its kind; a latter-day superlative. For synonyms, see AI and FIZZING.

c. 1889. *Chicago Tribune* (quoted in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*). He's a GILT-EDGED idiot to play the game.

1891. *Standard*, 18 June, p. 2, c. 1. 'GILT-EDGED mutton' is the latest of glorified and 'boomed' American products.

1891. *Tit Bits*, 8 Aug., p. 286, c. 2. Another accomplishment, peculiar to the GILT-EDGED academy, is learning to eat asparagus, oranges, grapes, etc.

GILTER, see GILT, sense 2.

GILT-TICK, *subs.* (costermongers'). Gold.

GIMBAL- (or GIMBER-) JAWED, *adj.* (common). — Loquacious; talking NINETEEN TO THE DOZEN (*q.v.*). [Gimbals are a combination of rings for free

suspension; hence applied to persons the joints of whose jaws are loose in speech.]

GIMCRACK (GINCRACK, or JIM-CRACK), *subs.* (old). — 1. A showy simpleton, male or female; a DANDY (*q.v.*).

1618. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Loyal Subject*, iv., 3. These are fine GIMCRACKS; hey, here comes another, a flagon full of wine in his hand.

1637. FLETCHER, *Elder Brother*, iii., 3. You are a handsome and a sweet young lady, And ought to have a handsome man yoked to ye. An understanding too; this is a GIMCRACK That can get nothing but new fashions on you.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Canting Crew*. GIMCRACK, a spruce wench.

1706. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *Basset Table*, II., *Works* (1872), i., 122. The philosophical GIMCRACK.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (colloquial). — A showy trifle; anything pretty to look at but of very little worth.

1632. CHAPMAN and SHIRLEY, *The Ball*, Act iv. *Lw.* There remains, To take away one sample. *Wi.* Another GIMCRACK?

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. 3, ch. i. Rifled all his pokes and fobs. *Cf.* GIMCRACKS, whims, and jiggumbobs.

1698-1700. WARD, *London Spy*, pt. 7, p. 148. I suppose there being little else to lose except scenes, machines, or some such JIM-CRACKS.

1843. THACKERAY, *Irish Sketch Book*, ch. i. There was the harp of Brian Boru, and the sword of some one else, and other cheap old GIMCRACKS with their corollary of lies.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 63. Such rum-looking GIMCRACKS, my pippin.

3. (provincial). — A handy man; a JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES (*q.v.*).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. A GIMCRACK also means a person who has a turn for mechanical contrivances.

4. (venery). — The female *puendum*. [A play on sense 2, and CRACK, (*q.v.*)] For synonym, see MONOSYLLABLE.

*Adj.* (colloquial). — Trivial; showy; worthless.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. ix. No shops so beautiful to look at as the Brighton GIMCRACK shops, and the fruit shops, and the market.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *An Ocean Tragedy*, p. 30. Soberly clothed with nothing more GIMCRACK in the way of finery upon him than a row of waistcoat-buttons.

1892. *Tit Bits*, 19 Mar., p. 425 c. 2. A large cabinet or wardrobe, beautifully carved, and very substantial, no GIMCRACK work.

**GIMCRACKERY**, *subs.* (colloquial). — The world of GIMCRACK (*q.v.*).

1884. A. FORBES, in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.*, Jan., p. 230. The inner life of the Empire was a strange mixture of rottenness and GIMCRACKERY.

**GIMLET-EYE**, *subs.* (common). — A squint-eye; a PIERCER (*q.v.*). Fr.: *des yeux en trou de pine*.

**GIMLET-EYED**, *adj.* (common). — Squinting, or squinny-eyed; cock-eyed. As in the old rhyme: 'Gimlet eye, sausage nose, Hip awry, bandy toes.'

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GIMMER**, *subs.* (Scots'). — An old woman. A variant of 'cummer.'

**GIN**, *subs.* (Australian). — An Australian native woman.

1857. KINGSLEY, *Two Years Ago*, ch. xiii. An Australian settler's wife bestows on some poor slaving GIN a cast-off French bonnet.

1890. HUME NISBET, *Bail Up*, p. 30.

2. (Australian). — An old woman. For synonyms, see GEEZER.

**GIN-AND-GOSPEL GAZETTE**, *subs. phr.* (journalists'). — The *Morning Advertiser*: as the organ of the Licensed Victualling and Church of England party. Also the TAP-TUB and BEER-AND-BIBLE GAZETTE.

**GIN-AND-TIDY**, *adv. phr.* (American). — Decked out in 'best bib and tucker.' A pun on 'neat spirits.'

**GIN-CRAWL**, *subs.* (common). — A TIPPLE (*q.v.*) on gin.

1892. A. CHEVALIER, 'The Little Nipper.' I used to do a GIN CRAWL ev'ry night, An' very, very often come 'ome tight.

**GINGAMBOBS** (or JIGGUMBOBS), *subs.* (common). — 1. Toys; baubles.

1690. B. E. *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (venery). — The testicles; also THINGAMBOBS. For synonyms, see CODS.

**GINGER**, *subs.* (common). — 1. A fast, showy horse; a beast that looks FIGGED (*q.v.*).

1859. *Notes and Queries*, 17 Dec. p. 493. A GINGER is a showy fast horse.

2. (common). — A red-haired person; CARROTS (*q.v.*). [Whence the phrase (venery) 'Black for beauty, GINGER for pluck.']

1885. MISS TENNANT in *Eng. Illustrated Magazine*, June, p. 605. The policemen are well known to the boys, and appropriately named by them. There is 'Jumbo,' too stout to run; GINGER, the red-haired.

3. (common). — Spirit; dash; GO (*q.v.*). TO WANT GINGER = to lack energy and PLUCK (*q.v.*).

1888. *The World*, 13 May. You will remark that your spinal column is requiring a hinge, and that considerable GINGER is departing from your resolution to bear up and enjoy yourself.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 124. If father objects send him to me, I'll take the GINGER out of him in short order.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 207. Give her GINGER, boys.

*Adj.* (common).—Red-haired; FOXY (*q.v.*); JUDAS-HAIRED (*q.v.*). Also GINGER-PATED, GINGER-HACKLED, and GINGERY.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Red-haired; a term borrowed from the cock-pit, where red cocks are called GINGERS.

1839. H. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard*, ch. xii. Somebody may be on the watch—perhaps that old GINGER-HACKLED Jew.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xix., p. 160. The very learned gentleman who has cooled the natural heat of his GINGERY complexion in pools and fountains of law, until he has become great in knotty arguments for term-time.

1878. M. E. BRADDON, *Cloven Foot*, ch. iv. The landlady was a lean-looking widow, with a false front of GINGERY curls.

**GINGERBREAD**, *subs.* (old).—I. Money: *e.g.*, 'He has the GINGERBREAD' = he is rich.

1690. B. E. *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*. Your old dad had the GINGERBREAD.

1864. *Standard*, 13 Dec. We do not find . . . the word GINGERBREAD used for money, as we have heard it both before and within the last six months. The origin of the use of the word may probably be the old fairy legends wherein the coin obtained over night from the elves was usually found in the morning to have turned into little gingerbread cakes.

2. (colloquial).—BRUMMAGEM (*q.v.*); showy, but worthless ware.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—Showy but worthless; tinsel. Fr., *en pain d'épice*. GINGERBREAD WORK (nautical) = carved and gilded decorations; GINGERBREAD

QUARTERS (nautical) = luxurious living.

1757. SMOLLETT, *Compendium of Voyages and Travels*. The rooms are too small and too much decorated with carving and gilding, which is a kind of GINGERBREAD work.

TO TAKE THE GILT OFF THE GINGERBREAD. See GILT.

**GINGERLY**, *adj.* and *adv.* (old: now recognised).—As *adj.*, delicate; fastidious; dainty; as *adv.*, with great care; softly.

1533. UDAL, *Floures for Latine Spekynges*. We stayge and prolonge our goying, with a nyce or tendre and softe, delicate, or GINGERLY pace.

c. 1563. *Jacke Jugeler*, p. 40 (ed. Grosart). We used to call her at home Dame Coye, a pretie GINGERLIE pice [piece].

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse*, in *Wks.*, ii., 32. That lookes as simperingly as if she were besmeared, and sits it as GINGERLY as if she were dancing the Canaries.

1611. CHAPMAN, *May-Day*, Act iii., p. 294 (*Plays*, 1874). Come, come, GINGERLY; for God's sake, GINGERLY.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, q.v.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. Gently, softly, easily.

1759-67. STERNE, *Tristram Shandy*, vol. V., ch. v. My mother was going very GINGERLY in the dark.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. To go GINGERLY to work, *i.e.*, to attempt a thing gently, or cautiously.

1874. MRS. H. WOOD, *Johnny Ludlow*, i S. 12, p. 207. The Squire went in GINGERLY, as if he had been treading on a spiked ploughshare.

**GINGER-POP**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. Ginger-beer.

2. (rhyming).—A policeman; a SLOP (*q.v.*).

1887. DAGONET, *Referee*, 7 Nov., p. 7, c. 3. Ere her bull-dog I could stop, She had called a GINGER-POP.

**GINGER-SNAP**, *subs.* (American).—A hot-tempered person, especially one with carrotty hair.



**GINGHAM**, *subs.* (common).—An umbrella; specifically one of this material. For synonyms, *see* MUSHROOM.

1868. MISS BRADDON, *Trail of the Serpent*, Bk. I., ch. vii. Mr. Peters therefore took immediate possession by planting his honest GINGHAM in a corner of the room.

1889. *Sportsman*, 2 Feb. It would really put a premium on the many little mistakes of ownership concerning GINGHAMS at present so common.

**GINGLE-BOY**, *subs.* (old).—A coin; latterly a gold piece. Also GINGLER. *See* ACTUAL and CANARY.

1622. MASSINGER and DEKKER, *Virgin Martyr*, II., 2. The sign of the GINGLEBOYS hangs at the door of our pockets.

**GINGUMBOBS**. *See* GINGAMBOBS.

**GINICOMTWIG**, *verb.* (vener).—To copulate. For synonyms, *see* RIDE.

1598. FLORIO, *Worlde of Wordes*, *Scuotere il pellicione*. To GINICOMTWIG or occupie a woman.

**GIN-LANE** (or **TRAP**), *subs.* (common).—I. The throat. For synonyms, *see* GUTTER-ALLEY. GIN-TRAP, also=the . . . mouth. For synonyms, *see* POTATO-TRAP.

1827. EGAN, *Anecdotes of the Turf*, p. 67. Never again could . . . he feel his ivories loose within his GIN-TRAP.

2. (common).—Generic for the habit of drunkenness.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], p. 8. Let me advise you on no account to fly to strong waters for consolation, Joan. One nail drives out another, it's true; but the worst nail you can employ is a coffin nail. GIN LANE's the nearest road to the churchyard.

**GIN-MILL**, *subs.* (American).—A drinking saloon. For synonyms, *see* LUSH-CRIB.

1872. *Belgravia*, Dec. 'A Presidential Election.' Then goes off to rejoin his comrades, to adjourn to the nearest GIN-MILL.

**GINNIFIED**, *subs.* (common).—Dazed, or stupid, with liquor.

**GINNUMS**, *subs.* (common).—An old woman: especially one fond of drink.

**GINNY**, *subs.* (old).—A house-breaker's tool; *see* quot., 1754.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1754. *Scoundrels' Dict.* An instrument to lift up a grate or grating, to steal what is in the window. 'The ninth is a GINNY, to lift up the grate, If he sees but the Lurry, with his Hooks he will bait.'

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GIN-PENNY**, *subs.* (costermongers').—Extra profit, generally spent in drink.

**GIN-SLINGER**, *subs.* (common).—A gin-drinker. For synonyms, *see* LUSHINGTON.

**GIN-SPINNER**, *subs.* (old).—A distiller; a dealer in spirituous liquors. *Cf.*, ALE-SPINNER.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1827. EGAN, *Anecdotes of the Turf*, p. 179. Just as she was about to toddle to the GIN-SPINNER's for the ould folk and lisp out for a quatern of Max.

1888. F. GREEN, in *Notes and Queries*, 7 S., vi., 153. I have always understood that a GIN SPINNER is a distiller who makes gin, but could never find out why so called.

**GIN-TWIST**, *subs.* (common).—A drink composed of gin and sugar, with lemon and water.

1841. *Comic Almanac*, p. 271. What, for instance, but GIN-TWIST could have brought Oliver Twist to light?

**GIN UP**, *verb.* (American).—To work hard; to make things lively or HUM (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see WIRE IN.

1887. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Moccasin*. They were GINNING her UP, that's a fact.

**GIP**, *subs.* (American thieves').—1. A thief. 2. Also (Cambridge University) a college servant. See GYP. For synonyms, see THIEVES.

**GIRL**, *subs.* (common).—1. A prostitute; *in. pl.* = the stock in trade of a brothel. See BARRACK HACK, TART, and GAY. Fr., *fille*.

2. (colloquial).—A mistress; a MASH (*q.v.*).

3. *In. pl.* (venery).—The sex—or that part of it which is given to unchastity—in general; hence THE GIRLS = lechery.

AFTER THE GIRLS. HE'S BEEN AFTER THE GIRLS, *verb. phr.* (common).—Said of one with clap or pox.

**GIRL AND BOY**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming). A saveloy.

**GIRLERY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A brothel. Also a theatre for burlesque and comic opera.

**GIRL-GETTER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A mincing, womanish male.

**GIRLING**. TO GO GIRLING, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To quest for women; to go on the LOOSE (*q.v.*).

**GIRLOMETER**, *subs.* (venery).—The penis. Also, GIRL-CATCHER. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**GIRL-SHOP**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A brothel.

**GIRL-SHOW**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A ballet, a burlesque, a LEG-PIECE (*q.v.*).

**GIRL STREET**. IN HAIR COURT, GIRL STREET, *subs. phr.* (common).—Generic for fornication. Also the female *pudendum*.

**GIRL-TRAP**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A seducer; a MUTTON-MONGER (*q.v.*).

**GIT!** (or **YOU GIT!**), *intj.* (American).—Be off with you! An injunction to immediate departure; WALKER! (*q.v.*). Sometimes a contraction of GET OUT! Also GET OUT AND DUST!

1851. SEAWORTHY, *Bertie*, p. 78. Thru as the tin commandhers! GIT AOUT!

TO HAVE NO GIT UP AND GIT, *phr.* (American).—To be weak, vain, mean, or slow—generally deprecatory.

**GIVE**, *verb.* (vulgar).—1. To lead to; to conduct; to open upon: *e.g.*, 'The door GAVE upon the street.' Cf. the idiomatic use, in French, of *donner*.

2. (American).—An all-round auxiliary to active verbs: *e.g.*, TO GIVE ON PRAYING = to excel at prayer; TO GIVE ON THE MAKE = to be clever at making money, etc.

TO GIVE IT TO, *verb. phr.* (old).—1. To rob; to defraud.—GROSE.

2. (common).—To scold; to thrash. Also TO GIVE WHAT FOR; TO GIVE IT HOT; TO GIVE SOMETHING FOR ONESELF; TO GIVE ONE IN THE EYE, etc.

Fr., *aller en donner*. For synonyms, see WIG and TAN respectively.

1612. CHAPMAN, *Widow's Tears*, Act i., p. 312 (*Plays*, 1874). This braving wooer hath the success expected; the favour I obtained made me witness to the sport, and let his confidence be sure, I'll GIVE IT HIM HOME.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Bos*, p. 134. 'Take that,' exclaimed Mr. Samuel Wilkins. . . . 'GIVE IT HIM,' said the waistcoat. . . . Miss J'mima Ivins's beau and the friend's young man lay gasping on the gravel, and the waistcoat and whiskers were seen no more.

1889. J. M. BARRIE in *Time*, Aug. p. 148. When he said he would tell everybody in the street about there being a baby, I GAVE HIM ONE IN THE EYE. *Ibid.* If it's true what Symons Tertius says, that Cocky has gone and stolen my reminiscences about Albert's curls, putting it into his reminiscences like as if it was his own, I'll GIVE HIM IT HOT.

TO GIVE IN (or OUT), *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To admit defeat; to yield; to be exhausted; TO THROW UP THE SPONGE. See FLOORED and CAVE IN.

1748. SMOLLETT *Rod. Random*, ch. xviii. Strap, after having received three falls on the hard stones, GAVE OUT, and allowed the blacksmith to be the better man.

1760-1. SMOLLETT, *L. Greaves*, vol. II., ch. viii. By this time the doctor had GIVEN OUT, and allowed the brewer to be the better man.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 25. Poor Georgy GAVE IN.

1837. LYTTON, *Ernest Maltravers*, bk. IV., ch. ix. Your time is up . . . you have had your swing, and a long one it seems to have been—you must now GIVE IN.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 99. Jest about then both on our pussies GIN OUT.

1850. BUFFUM, *Six Months in the Gold Mines*, p. 73. After working three days with the machine, the earth we had been washing began to GIVE OUT.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xxiv., p. 217. I am surprised to hear a man of your energy talk of GIVING IN.

TO GIVE AWAY, *verb. phr.* (American).—To betray or expose inadvertently; TO BLOW UPON (*q.v.*): TO PEACH (*q.v.* for synonyms). Also TO GIVE DEAD AWAY. Largely used in combination: *e.g.*, GIVE-AWAY = an exposure; GIVE-AWAY CUE = an underhand revelation of secrets.

1833. F. M. CRAWFORD, *Doctor Claudius*, ch. vi., p. 100. It always amused him to see sanguine people angry. They looked so uncomfortable, and GAVE THEMSELVES AWAY so recklessly.

1886. A. LANG, *Longman's Mag.*, VII., 321. I know not whether the American phrase, to GIVE A PERSON AWAY, to GIVE YOURSELF AWAY, meaning to reveal your own or another's secret, is of provincial English origin. Did it cross over with the Pilgrim Fathers in the *May Flower*, or is it a recent bit of slang? 'Who GIVETH THIS WOMAN AWAY?' asked the rural American parson in the wedding service. 'I *could*,' came the voice of a young man from the gallery, 'but I'd never be so mean.'

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, Aug. Careful what we say, For it will GIVE US DEAD AWAY.

1889. *Answers*, 20 Apr., p. 326. My closely cropped hair, however, GAVE ME AWAY.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 195. For the sake of the joke I'll GIVE MYSELF AWAY.

TO GIVE ONE BEST, *verb. phr.* (schoolboys'). — I. To acknowledge one's inferiority, a defeat. Also (thieves') to leave, TO CUT (*q.v.*).

1887. HORSLEY, *Jottings from Jail*. But after a time I GAVE HIM BEST (left him), because he used to want to bite my ear (borrow) too often.

TO GIVE THE COLLAR, *verb. phr.* (American).—To seize; to arrest; TO COLLAR (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see NAB.

TO GIVE THE BULLET (SACK, BAG, KICK-OUT, PIKE, ROAD, etc.), *verb. phr.* (common).—To discharge from an employ.



**GIVE US A REST!** *phr.* (American). — Cease talking! An injunction upon a bore.

**TO GIVE NATURE A FILLIP,** *verb. phr.* (old). — To indulge in wine or women. — B.E. (1690).

**TO GIVE WAY,** *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To permit the sexual embrace: by women only.

1870. *Weekly Times*, 1 May. She was sorry to say, she **GAVE WAY** to him. (Laughter.) Mr. Maude remarked she was a foolish woman, and, being a widow, ought to have known what **GIVING WAY** would come to. — Complainant said of course she did, but she thought he meant to marry her.

[Other combinations will be found under the following; AUCTIONEER; BACK CAP; BAG; BAIL; BASTE; BEANS; BEEF; BIFF; BLACK EYE; BONE; BUCKET; BULLET; BULL'S FEATHER; CLINCH; DOUBLE; FIG; GAS; GO BY; GRAVY; HOIST; HOT BEEF; JESSE; KENNEDY; KEY OF THE STREET; LAND; LEG UP; LIP; MILLER; MITTEN; MOUTH; NEEDLE; OFFICE; POINTS; PUSSY; RUB OF THE THUMB; SACK; SKY-HIGH; SLIP; TAIL; TASTE OF CREAM; TURNIPS; WEIGHT; WHITE ALLEY; WORD.]

**GIVER, subs.** (pugilistic). — A good boxer; an artist in PUNISHMENT (*q.v.*).

1824. REYNOLDS, ('Peter Corcoran'), *The Fancy*, p. 73. She knew a smart blow from a handsome **GIVER** Would darken lights.

**GIXIE, subs.** (obsolete). — A wanton wench; a strumpet; an affected mincing woman.

1598. FLORIO, *Worlds of Wordes*. *Faina*, a mincing, coie, nice, puling, squeamish woman, an idle huswife, a flirt, a **GIXIE**. Also as *Foina* [*i.e.*, 'a polecat'; while *Foirare* = 'to lust for beastly lecherie, to be salt as a bitch.']

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*, s.v. *Gadrouvellette*, a minx, gigle, flirt, callet **GIXIE**: (a fained word applyable to any such cattell). [See further, *gadriller* (a wench) = 'to rump or play the rig' ].

**GIZZARD**, TO FRET ONE'S GIZZARD, *verb. phr.* (common). — To worry oneself. See FRET.

**TO STICK IN ONE'S GIZZARD,** *verb. phr.* (common). — To remain as something unpleasant, distasteful or offensive; to be hard of digestion; to be disagreeable or unpalatable.

c. 1830. *Finish of Tom and Jerry*, p. 241. It had always **STUCK IN HIS GIZZARD** to think as how he had been werry cruelly used.

**TO GRUMBLE IN THE GIZZARD,** *verb. phr.* (common). — To be secretly displeased. Hence, GRUMBLE-GIZZARD (*q.v.*).

**GLADSTONE, subs.** (common). — I. Cheap claret. [Mr. Gladstone, when in office in 1869, reduced the duty on French wines.] See DRINKS.

1876. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, ch. ix. Claret certainly good, too—none of your **GLADSTONE** tap; sherry probably rather coarse.

1885. A. BIRRELL, *Obiter Dicta*, p. 86. To make him unbosom himself over a bottle of **GLADSTONE** claret in a tavern in Leicester Square.

2. colloquial). — A travelling bag. [So named in honour of Mr. Gladstone.]

**GLADSTONIZE, verb** (colloquial). — To talk about and round; to evade or prevaricate; to speak much and mean nothing.

**GLANTHORNE, subs.** (old). — Money. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

1789. PARKER *Life's Painter*, p. 42. Drop the **GLANTHORNE** = part with money.

**GLASGOW GREYS**, *subs. phr.* (military). — The 70th Foot. [Which in the beginning was largely recruited in Glasgow.]

1886. *Tinsley's Mag.*, Apr., p. 321. The 70th were long known as the GLASGOW GREYS.

**GLASGOW MAGISTRATE**, *subs. phr.* (common). — A herring, fresh or salted, of the finest. [From the practice of sending samples to the Baillie of the River for approval.] Also GLASGOW BAILLIE.

1855. *STRANG, Glasgow and its City Clubs*. This club . . . better known by the title of the Tinkler's club, particularly when the brotherhood changed the hour of meeting . . . and when the steak was exchanged for a 'Welsh rabbit' or GLASGOW MAGISTRATE.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS (for herrings generally). — Atlantic ranger; Californian; Cornish duck; Digby chicken; Dunbar wether; gendarme; Gourrock ham; magistrate; pheasant (or Billingsgate pheasant); reds; sea-rover; soldier; Taunton turkey; two-eye'd steak; Yarmouth capon. Fr. : *gendarme*.

**GLASS**, *subs.* (American thieves'). — An hour. [An abbreviation of 'hour-glass.']

1859. *MATSELL, Vocabulum*, s.v. The badger piped his Moll about a GLASS and a half before she cribbed the flat.

THERE'S A DEAL OF GLASS ABOUT, *phr.* (common). — I. Applied to vulgar display = 'IT'S THE THING' (*q.v.*).

2. (common). — Said in answer to an achievement in assertion. A memory of the proverb, 'People who live in glass houses should not throw stones.'

WHO'S TO PAY FOR THE BROKEN GLASS? *verb. phr.*

(colloquial). — See STAND THE RACKET.

BEEN LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS, *adv. phr.* (common). — Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

**GLASS-EYES**, *subs.* (old). — A man wearing spectacles; FOUR-EYES (*q.v.*); GIG-LAMPS (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GLASS-HOUSE**. TO LIVE IN A GLASS HOUSE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To lay oneself open to attack or adverse criticism.

**GLASS-WORK**, *subs.* (card-sharpers'). — An obsolete method of cheating at cards. A convex mirror the size of a small coin was fastened with shellac to the lower corner of the left palm opposite the thumb, enabling the dealer to ascertain by reflection the value of the cards he dealt.

**GLAZE**, *subs.* (old). — A window.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 12. GLAZE, a Window.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*, p. 43. Undub the Jeger and jump the GLAZE.

1852. *SNOWDEN, Mag. Assistant* (3rd ed.), p. 445. A window, GLAZE.

c. 1830. *Finish to Tom and Jerry* [1872], p. 82. A random shot milling the GLAZE.

*Verb* (old). — To cheat at cards. See quot. and GLASS-WORK.

1821. P. EGAN, *Real Life*, I., 297. If you take the broads in hand in their company, you are sure to be work'd, either by GLAZING, that is, putting you in front of a looking glass, by which means your hand is discovered by your antagonist, or by private signals from the pal.

TO MILL (or STAR A GLAZE),  
*verb. phr.* (old).—To break a  
window.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*,  
iii., 2. *Jerry*. What are you about, Tom?  
*Tom*. I'm going to MILL THE GLAZE—I'll  
—(*Is about to break the glass, when*  
*Kate and Sue appear as the Miss Trifles.*)

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*.  
GLAZE, s.v., TO MILL THE GLAZE, the  
miller may adopt a stick or otherwise, as  
seems most convenient.

ON THE GLAZE, *adv. phr.*  
(thieves').—Robbing jewellers'  
shops by smashing the windows.  
See GLAZIER.

1724-34. C. JOHNSON, *Highwaymen*  
*and Pyrates*, q.v.

1889. *Ally Sloper*, 4 May. Getting  
a reprieve he went to Dublin ON THE  
GLAZE.

GLAZIER, *subs., in. pl.* (old).—I. The  
eyes. For synonyms, see GLIMS.  
Fr.: *les ardents*.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 64.  
GLASYERS, eyes.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*,  
p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GLASIERS,  
eyes.

1611. MIDDLETON and DEKKER,  
*Roaring Girl*, v., 1. These GLASIERS of  
mine, mine eyes,

1656. BROME, *Jovial Crew*, ii. You're  
out with your GLAZIERS.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant.*  
*Crew*, s.v. The cove has rum GLAZIERS,  
c. that Rogue has excellent Eyes, or an  
Eye like a Cat.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.*  
GLAZIERS, c. eyes.

1725. *New Canting Dict.* 'Song.'  
Her GLAZIERS, too, are quite benighted.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* s.v.

2. (old).—A window thief. Cf.,  
GLAZE.

1725. *New Cant. Dict. Song.* 'The  
Twenty Craftsmen.' . . . A GLAZIER  
who when he creeps in, To pinch all  
the lurry he thinks it no sin.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

GLENER, *subs.* (old).—A thief.  
Cf., HOOKER, ANGLER, etc.  
For synonyms, see THIEVES.

GLIB, *subs.* (common).—I. The  
tongue. SLACKEN YOUR GLIB=  
loose your tongue. For syn-  
onyms, see CLACK.

2. (old).—A ribbon.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*,  
p. 42. A lobb full of GLIBBS, a box full of  
ribbons.

*Adj.* (old, now recognised).—  
Smooth; slippery; voluble; GLIB-  
TONGUED or GLIB-GABBIT (cf.,  
GAB)=talkative; ready of speech.

1605. SHAKESPEARE, *Lear*, Act i.,  
Sc. i. I want that GLIB and oily art, To  
speak and purpose not.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant.*  
*Crew*, s.v. Smooth, without a Rub.  
GLIB-TONGUED. Voluble or Nimble-  
tongued.

1890. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 31 Jan.  
The rest who were so GLIB with their  
promises.

GLIBE, *subs.* (American thieves').—  
Writing; specifically, a written  
statement.

GLIM (or GLYM), *subs.* (old).—I. A  
candle, or dark lantern; a fire or  
light of any kind. TO DOUSE THE  
GLIM=to put out the light. Fr.:  
*estourbir la cabande*. Also short  
for GLIMMER or GLYMMAR  
(q.v.).

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant.*  
*Crew*, s.v. A Dark Lantern used in  
Robbing Houses; also to burn in the  
Hand.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th  
ed.), p. 12. GLIM, a Candle.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.* GLIM,  
s.v. A candle or light.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. Bring  
bess and GLYM; i.e., bring the instrument  
to force the door, and the dark lantern.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*,  
ii., 2. *Tom*. Then catch—here's the gen-  
tlemen's tooth-picker, and here's his GLIM  
(*Throws stick and lantern to Jerry.*)



1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. 5. Every star its GLIM at hiding.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. 16. Let's have a GLIM . . . or we shall go breaking our necks.

1837. LYTTON, *Ernest Maltravers*, Bk. I., ch. 10. 'Hush, Jack!' whispered one; 'hang out the GLIM and let's look about us.'

1852. JUDSON, *Myst., etc., of New York*, ch. iv. Old Jack bade Harriet trim the GLIM.

1883. R. L. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, p. 89. Sure enough, they left their GLIM here.

1884. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Admiral Guinea*, II., 6. Now here is my little GLIM; it aint for me because I'm blind.

2. (old).—A sham account of a fire as sold by FLYING STATIONERS (*q.v.*).

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., 233. His papers certify any and every 'ill that flesh is heir to' . . . Loss by fire is a GLIM.

3. *in. pl.* (common).—The eyes.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Blinkers; daylights; deadlights; glaziers; lights; lamps; ogles; optics; orbs; peepers; sees; squinters; topights; windows; winkers.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Les quinquets* (popular = bright eyes, Vidocq); *les mirettes* (popular and thieves'); Italian: *mira* = sight; *les rehauts* (thieves'); also DAYMANS—or LIGHTMANS (*q.v.*); *les calots* (thieves' = marbles); *les chasses* or *les chassiss* (popular = hunters'); *les lampions* (thieves' = LAMPS (*q.v.*); Italian: *lanterna* and *lampante*); *les apics* (thieves'); *les ardents* (thieves' = piercers); *les œillets* (popular = eyelets; *les lanternes de cabriolet* (popular = giglamps); *les clig-*

*nots* (popular = winkers); *les carreaux* (thieves' = windows); *les clairs* (thieves' = shiners); *les coquards* (thieves').

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Lanterna* (= a lamp); *calchi*; *balchi*; *brunotti* (= brownies); *lampante*.

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Fanal* (= lantern); *lanterna* (= *idem*); *visantes* (vulgar); *vistosos* (vulgar).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Dierling* (from *stieren* = to stare); *Linzer*; *Scheining* (from *Schein* = DAYLIGHTS (*q.v.*)).

1824. P. EGAN, *Boxiana*, iv., 417. His GLIMS I've made look like a couple of rainbows.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 47 [ed. 1854]. Queer my GLIMS, if that ben't little Paul!

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, II., 339. Harold escaped with the loss of a GLIM.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 56. A pooty gal, gentle, or simple, as can't use her GLIMS is a flat.

4. *in. pl.* (common).—A pair of spectacles. For synonyms, see BARNACLES.

5. (common).—Gonorrhoea or CLAP (*q.v.*). [From sense 1 = fire.]

*Verb* (old).—To brand or burn in the hand.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. As the cull was GLIMM'd, he gangs to the Nubb, c., if the Fellow has been Burnt in the Hand, he'll be Hang'd now.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall*, p. 15. Profligate women are GLIMM'd for that villany, for which, rather than leave it, they could freely die martyrs.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

TO PUFF THE GLIMS, *verb. phr.* (veterinary).—To fill the hollow over the eyes of old

horses by pricking the skin and blowing air into the loose tissues underneath, thus giving the full effect of youth.

**GLIM-FENDERS**, *subs.* (old). — 1. Andirons, or fire-dogs.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GLIMFENDERS, c. Andirons. RUM GLIMFENDERS, Silver Andirons.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.* s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old). — Handcuffs. [A pun on sense 1.]

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of the Turf* s.v.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, s.v.

**GLIMFLASHLY** (or **GLIM-FLASHEY**), *adj.* (old). — Angry. See NAB THE RUST and HAIR.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GLIMFLASHLY, c., Angry, or in a Passion. The Cull is GLIMFLASHLY, c. the Fellow is in a Heat.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xxxi. No, Captain, don't be GLIM-FLASHEY! You have not heard all yet.

**GLIM-JACK**, *subs.* (old). — A link boy; a MOON-CURSER (*q.v.*); but, in any sense, a thief.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GLIM-LURK**, *subs.* (tramps'). — A beggars' petition, based on a fictitious fire or GLIM (sense 2).

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 233. The patterer becomes a 'lurker,—that is, an imposter; his papers certify any and every 'ill that flesh is heir to.' Shipwreck is called a SHAKE-LURK; loss by fire is a GLIM

**GLIMMER** (or **GLYMMAR**), *subs.* (old). — Fire. See quot.

1587. HARMAN, *Caveat*. These DEMAUNDERS FOR GLYMMAR be for the moste parte wemen.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38. (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GLYMMER, Fire.

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, pt. I., ch. v., p. 49 (1874). GLYMMER, Fire.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1725. *New Canting Dict.*, Song, 'The Maunder's Praise of his Strowling Mort.' Doxy, Oh! thy Glaziers shine, As GLYMMAR by the Solomon.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GLIMMERER**, *subs.* (old). — A beggar working with a petition giving out that he is ruined by fire. Also GLIMMERING MORT = a female GLIMMERER.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GLIMMERER, c., the Twenty-second Rank of the Canting Tribe, begging with Sham Licences, pretending to Losses by Fire, etc.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GLIMSTICK**, *subs.* (old). — A candlestick. [From GLIM = a light + stick.] Fr. : *une occasion*.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GLIMSTICK, c., a Candlestick. RUM GLIMSTICKS, c., Silver Candlesticks. QUEER GLIMSTICKS, c., Brass, Pewter, or Iron Candlesticks.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GLISTER**, *subs. phr.* (thieves'). — See quot., GLISTER OF FISH-HOOKS.

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321. A glass of Irish whiskey . . . a GLISTER OF FISH-HOOKS.

**GLISTNER**, *subs.* (old). — A sovereign. For synonyms, see CANARY.

**GLOAK** (or **GLOACH**), *subs.* (old).—A man. For synonyms, *see* CHUM and COVE.

1821. D. HAGGART, *Life*, Glossary, pp. 48 and 172. GLOACH, a man; cove.

**GLOBE**, *subs.* (old).—1. A pewter pot; pewter.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

2. *in. pl.* (common).—The paps. For synonyms, *see* DAIRY.

**GLOBE-RANGERS**, *subs.* (nautical).—The Royal Marines.

**GLOBE-TROTTER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A traveller; primarily one who races from place to place, with the object of covering ground or making a record. Fr.: *un pacquelineur*.

1886. *Graphic*, 7 Aug., 1471. Your mere idle gaping GLOBETROTTER will spin endless pages of unobservant twaddle, and will record his tedious wanderings with most painful minuteness.

1888. *Academy*, 17 Mar. The inevitable steamboat, the world, and the omnivorous GLOBE-TROTTER.

1889. *Echo*, 9 Feb. The British GLOBE-TROTTER knows Japan as he knows England, and English books about Japan are turned out by the ton.

1890. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 27 Jan., p. 5, c. 2. This popular definition of a quick-mover has now become effete. Miss Bly is a GLOBE-GALLOPER or she is nothing.

**GLOBE-TROTTING**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Travelling after the manner of GLOBE-TROTTERS (*g.v.*).

1888. *Academy*, 22 Sept. In fact, GLOBE-TROTTING, as the Americans somewhat irreverently term it, is now frequently undertaken as a mere holiday trip.

**GLOPE**, *verb.* (Winchester College).—To spit. (Obsolete).

**GLORIOUS**, *aaj.* (common).—Excited with drink; 'in one's altitudes'; BOOZED. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1791. BURNS, *Tam o' Shanter*. Kings may be blessed, but Tam was GLORIOUS, O'er a' the ills of life victorious.

1853. THACKERAY, *Barry Lyndon*, ch. xviii., p. 252. I knew nothing of the vow, or indeed of the tipsy frolic which was the occasion of it; I was taken up GLORIOUS, as the phrase is, by my servants, and put to bed.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 9 Feb. But as they all began to get GLORIOUS, personalities became more frequent and very much stronger.

**GLORIOUS SINNER**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—A dinner.

**GLORY**, *subs.* (common).—The after life; KINGDOM COME (*g.v.*). Usually, THE COMING GLORY.

1841. *Punch*, 17 July, p. 2. Clara pines in secret—Hops the twig, and goes to GLORY in white muslin.

IN ONE'S GLORY, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—In the full flush of vanity, pride, taste, notion, or idiosyncrasy.

**GLOVES, TO GO FOR THE GLOVES**, *verb. phr.* (racing).—To bet recklessly; to bet against a horse without having the wherewithal to pay if one loses—the last resource of the plunging turfite. The term is derived from the well-known habit of ladies to bet in pairs of gloves, expecting to be paid if they win, but not to be called upon to pay if they lose.

1877. HAWLEY SMART, *Play or Pay*, ch. xi. One of the boldest plungers of the day, who had begun badly, was GOING FOR THE GLOVES upon this match.



1886. *Badminton Library*, 'Racing,' p. 255. Hardly worth mentioning are the backers who come in for a hit-or-miss dash at the ring—TO GO FOR THE GLOVES, as it is called in ring parlance.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 3 Apr. Although we frequently read in stories of the hero backing the right horse at a long price, and so getting out of sundry monetary difficulties, we rarely find the idea realised in practice. Many a book-maker has GONE FOR THE GLOVES.

**GLOW**, *adj.* (tailors').—Ashamed.

**GLUE**, *subs.* (common).—1. Thick soup. (Because it sticks to the ribs.)

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Deferred stock; belly-gum; giblets-twist; gut-concrete; rib-tickler; stick-in-the-ribs.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *La menêtre* (thieves'); *la lavasse* (= a mess of pot liquor); *la laffe* (thieves'); *la jaffe* (popular); *l'ordinaire* (popular: soup and boiled beef at an ordinary); *le fond d'estomac* (=thick soup); *la mousse*; *la mouillante* (=the moistener).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Jauche*; *Polifke*.

2. (common).—Gonorrhœa.

**GLUE-POT**, *subs.* (common).—A parson. [Because he joins in wedlock.] For synonyms, see DEVIL-DODGER and SKY-PILOT.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GLUM**, *adj.* (old: now recognised).—Sullen; down in the mouth; stern. Fr.: *faire son nez* = to look glum; also, *n'en pas mener large*.

1712. ARBUTHNOT, *Hist. of John Bull*, pt. IV., ch. vii. Nic. looked sour and GLUM, and would not open his mouth.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

17(?)). *Broadside Ballad*, 'Sam Hall, The parson he will come, And he'll look so bloody GLUM.

1816. JOHNSON, *Dict. of the English Language*. GLUM, s.v., a low cant word formed by corrupting 'gloom.'

1847. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ii., ch. vi. 'I wonder whether Lady South-down will go away; she looked very GLUM upon Mrs. Rawdon,' the other said.

1888. *Referee*, 21 Oct. Who found him looking GLUM and gray, And thought his accent gruff and foreign.

1892. A. W. PINERO, *The Times*, v., i. What are you so GLUM about.

**GLUMP**, *verb.* (provincial). — To sulk. Hence GLUMPY, GLUMPING, and GLUMPISH = sullen or stubborn.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*. GLUMP-ING, sullen, or sour looking. Exm.

1835. TH. HOOK, *Gilbert Gurney*. He was GLUMPY enough when I called.

1860. G. ELIOT, *Mill on the Floss*, Bk. VI., ch. iv. 'An it worrets me as Mr. Tom 'ull sit by himself so GLUMPISH, a-knittin' his brow, an' a lookin' at the fire of a night.

**GLUTMAN**, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1797. *Police of the Metropolis*, p. 64. An inferior officer of the Customs, and particularly one of that class of supernumerary tide waiters, who are employed temporarily when there is a press or hurry of business. These GLUTMEN are generally composed of persons who are without employment, and, being also without character, recommend themselves principally from the circumstance of being able to write.

**GLUTTON**, *subs.* (common).—1. A horse which lasts well; a STAYER (*q.v.*).

2. (pugilists').—A pugilist who can take a lot of PUNISHMENT (*q.v.*).

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, xvi. Thus Theocritus, in his *Milling Match*, calls Amycus a GLUTTON, which is well known to be the classical phrase at Moulsey-Hurst for one who, like Amycus, takes a deal of punishment before he is satisfied.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Mirror*, 30 Jan., p. 6, c. 3. He was known to be an awfully heavy hitter with both hands, a perfect GLUTTON at taking punishment.

**GNARLER**, *subs.* (thieves'). — A watch dog. For synonyms, *see* **TIKE**.

**GNASP**, *verb.* (old). — To vex. For synonyms, *see* **RILE**.

1728. *BAILEY, English Dict.* s.v.

**GNOFF**. — *See* **GONNOF**.

**GNOSTIC**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A knowing one; a **DOWNY COVE** (*q.v.*); a **WHIPSTER** (*q.v.*). [From the Gr., *gnosis*=knowledge.]

1819. *MOORE, Tom Crib*, p. 27. Many of the words used by the Canting Beggars in Beaumont and Fletcher's *Masque* are still to be heard among the **GNOSTICS** of Dyot Street and Tothill Fields.

*adj.* (colloquial). — Knowing, **ARTFUL** (*q.v.*).

**GNOSTICALLY**, *adv.* (colloquial). — Knowingly.

1825. *SCOTT, St. Roman's Well*, ch. iv. He was tog'd **GNOSTICALLY** enough.

**GO**, *subs.* (common). — I. A drink; specifically a quartern of gin. (Formerly a **GO-DOWN**, but *Cf.* *quot.* 1811.

[For other combinations *see* **ABROAD**—**ALL FOURS**—**ALOFT**—**AUNT**—**BABY**—**BACK ON**—**BAD**—**BAIL**—**BALDHEADED**—**BATH**—**BATTER**—**BEDFORDSHIRE**—**BEGGAR'S BUSH**—**BETTER**—**BLAZES**—**BLIND**—**BOARD**—**BODKIN**—**BULGE**—**BUNGAV**—**BURY**—**BUST**—**BY-BY**—**CALL**—**CAMP**—**CHUMP**—**COLLEGE**—**CRACKED**—**DEAD BROKE**—**DEVIL**—**DING**—**DING-DONG**—**DOCK**—**DOSS**—**DRAG**—**FLOUCH**—**FLUE**—**GAMBLE**—**GLAZE**—**GLORY**—**GLOVES**—**GRAIN**—**GRASS**—**GROUND**—**HAIRYFORDSHIRE**—**HALL**—**HALVES**—**HANG**—**HELL**—**HIGH FLY**—**HIGH TOBY**—**HOOKE**—**HOOP**—**JERICHO**—**JUMP**—**KITCHEN**—**MAN**—**MAJORITY**—**MILL**—**MURPHY**—**PACE**—**PIECES**—**PILE**—**POT**—**QUEEN**—**RAKER**—**RANGE**—**ROPE**—**WALK**—**SALT RIVER**—**SHALLOW**—**SHOP**—**SLOW**—**SMASH**—**SNACKS**—**SNOOKS**—**SPOUT**—**STAR-GAZING**—**SWEET VIOLETS**—**TOP**—**WALKER'S BUS**—

**WEST**—**WHOLE ANIMAL**—**WOODBINE**—**WOOLGATHERING**—**WRONG**.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS.** — **Bender**; **caulker**; **coffin nail**; **common-sewer**; **cooler**; **crack**; **cry**; **damp**; **dandy**; **dash**; **dew-hank**; **dewdrop**; **dodger**; **drain**; **dram**; **facer**; **falsh**; **gargle**; **gasp**; **go-down**; **hair of the dog**, etc.; **Johnny**; **lip**; **liquor up**; **livener**; **lotion**; **lounge**; **modest quencher**; **muzzler**; **nail from one's coffin**; **night-cap**; **nip** or **nipper**; **nobbler**; **old crow**; **a one**, **a two**, or **a three**; **out**; **peg**; **pick-me-up**; **pony**; **quencher**; **reviver**; **rince**; **sensation**; **settler**; **shift**; **shove in the mouth**; **slug**; **small cheque**; **smile**; **snifter**; **something damp**; **something short**; **swig**; **thimbleful**; **tiddly**; **top up**; **tot**; **warmer**; **waxer**; **wet**; **white-wash**; **yard**.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS.** — *Un bourgeron* (popular=a nip of brandy); *un asticot de cercueil* (=a coffin-worm, a play on *verre* and *bière*); *un coup d'arrosoir* (popular: a touch of the watering pot); *un gargarisme* (popular:=a **GARGLE** [*q.v.*]); *un galopin* (=a **PONY** [*q.v.*] of beer); *un larme* (=a tear); *un mistiche* (thieves'); *un misérable* (popular: a glass of spirits costing one sou; *une demoiselle* = two sous; *un monsieur*=four sous; *un poisson* = five sous); *un mince de chic* (popular: in contempt); *une coquille de noix* (popular = a thimbleful; a very small **GO**; a drain); *un jeune homme* (familiar=in capacity four litres); *un Kolback* (popular=a small glass of brandy, or large glass of wine); *une flûte* (familiar); *un extravagant* (popular=a long drink); *un fil* (=a drain); *un*

*distingué* (popular); *une douleur* (popular=a comforter or PICK-ME-UP); *un ballon* (popular).

ITALIAN SYNONYM.—*Schioppa* (=a long drink: also a large beer glass).

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Chisguete* (colloquial); *enjuagadientes* (also = a mouthful of water or wine for rinsing the mouth after eating); *espolada* (=a long drink).

PORTUGUESE SYNONYM.—*Quebrado* (= broken: a small glass).

1690. D'URFEY, *Collin's Walk*, canto 4. And many more whose quality Forbids their toping openly, Will privately, on good occasion, Take six GO-DOWNS on reputation.

1793. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GO-SHOP. . . . The Queen's Head in Duke's Court.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. GO-SHOP, s.v. The Queen's Head, in Duke's Court, Bow Street, Covent Garden, frequented by the under players, where gin and water was sold in three-halfpenny bowls, called GOES; the gin was called Arrack.

1823. JON. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, The Streets: Night. Chops, kidneys, rabbits, oysters, stout, cigars, and GOES innumerable, are served up amidst a noise and confusion of smoking, running, knife-clattering, and waiter-chattering, perfectly indescribable.

1841. *Punch*, Vol. I., p. 11, c. 1. Waiter, a GO of Brett's best alcohol.

1849. THACKERAY, *Hoggarty Diamond*, ch. ii. Two more chairs, Mary, two more tumblers, two more hot waters, and two more GOES of gin!

1850. SMEDLEY, *Frank Fairleigh*, p. 54. Drinking alternate GOES of gin and water with a dustman for the purpose of insinuating myself into the affections of Miss Cinderella Smut, his interesting sister.

1853. *Diogenes*, Vol. II., p. 271. Shall I spend it in theatres? shows? In numerous alcohol GOES?

1870. *Figaro*, 28 May. Their musical performances are evidently inspired by GOES of gin.

1883. *Echo*, 7 Feb., p. 4, c. 3. Witness asked him what he had been drinking. He replied, 'Two half-goes of rum hot and a half-pint of beer.'

2. (colloquial).—An incident; an occurrence: e.g., a RUM GO = a strange affair, or queer start; a PRETTY GO = a startling business; a CAPITAL GO = a pleasant business.

1803. KENNEY, *Raising the Wind*, i., 3. Ha! ha! ha! Capital GO, isn't it?

1820. *Jack Randall's Diary*. Gemen (says he), you all well know The joy there is whene'er we meet; It's what I call the primest GO, And rightly named, 'tis—quite a treat.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 251. A considerable bustle and shuffling of feet was then heard upon the stage, accompanied by whispers of 'Here's a PRETTY GO!—what's to be done?'

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Misadventures at Margate.' 'O, Mrs. Jones,' says I, 'look here! Ain't this a PRETTY GO!'

1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 162. Stating his conviction that this was rayther a RUMMY GO.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. lxxiii. Master Frank Clavering . . . had only time to ejaculate the words, 'Here's a JOLLY GO!' and to disappear sniggering.

1869. MRS. H. WOOD, *Roland Yorke*, ch. xli. 'I am about to try what a month or two's absence will do for me.' 'And leave us to old Brown?—that will be a NICE GO!'

1876. GEORGE ELIOT, *Daniel Deronda*, ch. vii. A RUM GO as ever I saw.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *Three Brass Balls*, pledge xvi. He . . . exclaimed, 'Well, I'm dashed if this isn't a RUM GO!'

1883. R. L. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, p. 55. A pretty rum GO if squire aint to talk for Doctor Livesey.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 305. 'It was a NEAR GO,' said Jack.

3. (common).—The fashion; THE CHEESE (*g.v.*); the correct thing. Generally in the phrase ALL THE GO.



1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. He is quite the go, he is quite varment, he is prime, he is bang up.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* [ed. 1891], p. 35. Tom was the go among the GOES.

1835. HALIBURTON ('Sam Slick'), *The Clockmaker*, 3 S., ch. xiv. Whatever is the go in Europe will soon be the cheese here.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, I., 251. It was rather the GO With Pilgrims and Saints in the Second Crusade.

1846. *Punch*, vol. X., p. 163. From lowly Queen's quadrangle, Where muffins are the GO.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *Ballads of Babylon (Beauty and Beast)*. And all day long there's a big crowd stops To look at the lady who's ALL THE GO.

4. (colloquial).—Life; spirit; energy; enterprise; impetus: *e.g.*, PLENTY OF GO = full of spirit and dash. Fr.: *avoir du chien*.

1825. *The English Spy*, i., 178. She's only fit to carry a dean or a bishop. No GO in her.

1865. MACDONALD, *Alec Forbes of How-glen*, II., 269. All night Tibbie Dyster had lain awake in her lonely cottage, listening to the quiet heavy GO of the water.

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 9 Oct. Mr. Grossmith's music is bright and tripping, full of humour and GO, as, under such circumstances, music should be!

1883. *Illustrated London News*, 10 March, p. 242, c. 3. There was any amount of dash and GO in their rowing.

1887. PATON, *Down the Islands*. Barbadian may therefore be said to mean a man with GO and grit, energy and vim.

1889. *Sportsman*, 19 Jan. It all lent a certain zest and GO to the proceedings.

1890. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 21 Feb., p. 7, c. 1. There was so much heartiness and GO (so to speak) in the work that it reminded me of what I had read about peasant proprietors labouring in Switzerland and elsewhere under a Home Rule Government.

5. (colloquial).—A turn; an attempt; a chance. Cf., NO GO.

TO HAVE A GO AT, *verb. phr.* = to make essay of anything: as a man in a fight, a shot at billiards, and (specifically) a woman.

1836. C. DICKENS, *Pickwick Papers* (about 1827), p. 377 (ed. 1857). Wot do you think o' that for a GO?

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iii., p. 221. I've twelve this GO. I did a lagging of seven, and was at the Gib. three out of it.

1878. JAS. PAYN, *By Proxy*, ch. iii. 'I would practise that in the seclusion of my own apartments,' observed Pennicuck; 'and after a few GOES at it, I'll bet a guinea I'd shake the right stick out first.'

1883. HAGGARD, *Mr. Meeson's Will*, ch. x. You have had seven GOES and I have only had six.

6. (American).—A success. TO MAKE A GO OF IT = to bring things to a satisfactory termination.

1888. *Harper's Mag.*, vol. LXXVII., p. 689. Determination to make the venture a GO.

7. (gaming). The last card at cribbage, or the last piece at dominoes. When a player is unable to follow the lead, he calls a GO!

8. (old).—A DANDY (*q.v.* for synonyms); a very heavy swell indeed, one in the extreme of fashion.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* [people's ed.], p. 35. In the parks, Tom was THE GO among the GOES.

*Verb* (American political).—1. To vote; to be in favour of. Cf., GO FOR.

2. (colloquial).—To succeed; to achieve. Cf., GO DOWN.

1866. *Public Opinion*, 13 Jan., p. 51, c. 1. His London-street railway scheme didn't go.

1870. H. D. TRAILL, 'On the Watch.' *Sat. Songs*, p. 22. Eh, waddyer say? Don't it go? Ho, yes! my right honourable friend. It's GO and GO over the left, it's GO with a hook at the end.

3. (colloquial).—To wager; to risk. Hence to stand treat; to afford.

1768. GOLDSMITH, *Good Natured Man*, Act iii. Men that would GO forty guineas on a game of cribbage.

1876. BESANT AND RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, Prologue ii. The very dice on the counter with which the bar-keeper used to GO the miners for drinks.

1877. S. L. CLEMENS (M. Twain), *Life on the Mississippi*, ch. xliii., p. 390. There's one thing in this world which a person won't take in pine if he can GO walnut; and won't take in walnut if he can GO mahogany. . . . That's a coffin.

c. 1882. *Comic Song*, 'The West End Boys,' verse 3. Another bitter I really can't GO.

1887. *World*, 20 Apr., p. 8. While making up his mind, apparently whether he would GO 'three' or 'Nap.'

4. (racing).—To ride to hounds.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post to Finish*, p. 219. There would be far too many there who had seen Gerald Rockingham GO with the York and Ainstey not to at once know that he and Jim Forrest were identical.

5. (colloquial).—To be pregnant.

1561-1626. BACON, (quoted by Dr. Johnson). Women GO commonly nine months, the cow and ewe about six months.

1601. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry VIII.*, iv., 1. Great bellied women that had not half a week to GO.

GO DOWN, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To be accepted, received, or swallowed; to WASH (*q.v.*).

1609. DEKKER, *Lanthorne and Candle-Light*, in wks. (Grosart), III., 272. For the worst hors-flesh (so it be cheape) does best GOE DOWNE with him.

1659. MASSINGER, *City Madam*, i., 1. But now I fear it will be spent in poultry; Butcher's-meat will not GO DOWN.

1663. PEPYS, *Diary*, 9 Nov. The present clergy will never heartily GO DOWN with the generality of the commons of England.

1742. FIELDING, *Joseph Andrews*, bk. II., ch. xvii. 'O ho! you are a pretty traveller,' cries the host, 'and not know the Levant! . . . you must not talk of these things with me, you must not tip us the traveller—it won't GO here.'

1748. SMOLLETT, *Rod. Random*, ch. xxi. He . . . shook his head, and beginning with his usual exclamation said, 'That won't GO DOWN with me.'

1885. W. E. NORRIS, *Adrian Vidal*, ch. vii. In fashion or out of fashion, they always pay and always GO DOWN with the public.

2. (University).—To be under discipline; to be rusticated.

1863. H. KINGSLEY, *Austin Elliot*, i., 179. How dare you say 'deuce in my presence? You can GO DOWN, my Lord.

3. (common).—To become bankrupt. Also, TO GO UNDER.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON AND L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 19. Some one had certainly GONE DOWN.

TO GO DUE NORTH, *verb. phr.* (obsolete).—To go bankrupt. [That is, to go to White-cross Street Prison, once situate in north London]. See QUISBY.

TO GO ON THE DUB, *verb. phr.* (old).—To go house-breaking; to pick locks. See DUB.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*. Going upon the DUB, c. Breaking a House with picklocks.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

TO GO TO THE DOGS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To go to ruin. [Cf., the Dutch proverb 'Toe goet, toe de dogs' = money gone, credit gone too.] See DEMNITION BOW-WOWS.

1857. A. TROLLOPE, *Three Clerks*, ch. i. The service, he said, would GO TO THE DOGS, and might do for anything he cared and he did not mind h w soon.

1863. H. KINGSLEY, *Austin Elliot*, i, 179. 'Got a second!—bah! The University is going to the '—' Deuce!' suggested Lord Charles, who was afraid of something worse. 'Dogs, Sir, dogs!'

c. 1879. *Broadside Ballad*, 'Old Clo'. 'My line of business is played out, it's GOING TO THE DOGS.'

TO GO OFF ON THE EAR, *verb. phr.* (American).—To get angry; to fly into a tantrum. See NAB THE RUST.

TO GO FOR, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To attempt; to tackle; to resolve upon; to MAKE FOR (*q.v.*).

1871. JOHN HAY, *Jim Bludso*. He see'd his duty, a dead-sure thing—And he WENT FOR it thar and then.

1890. *Athenæum*, 22 Mar., p. 366, c. 1. 'The authors have spared neither their creatures nor the reader one iota; whenever an unpleasant effect was obtainable, they straightway seem to have GONE FOR it with unflinching zest.'

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 221. Some men had GONE FOR half a dozen, others for two or three, and very few for a single.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 118. We are strong, my boy, strong now, and are GOING IN FOR the slugging of books also, as well as the immorality of trade.

2. (colloquial).—To attack with violence and directness, whether manually or with the tongue.

1871. *Morning Advertiser*, 2 Feb., 'A certain lecture.' On . . . arrival home the derelict husband is to be GONE FOR in the most approved style of the late lamented Mrs. Caudle.

1883. JAMES PAYN, *Thicker than Water*, ch. xxxvii. There were occasions . . . when Charley could hardly help GOING FOR the legs of that lofty philosopher, for higher he could not hit him.

1889. *Polytechnic Magazine*, 24 Oct., p. 261. He WENT FOR the jam tarts unmercifully.

1889. *Star*, 24 Aug., p. 4, c. 2. As the enlightened tailor still declined to pay the blackmail one of the anti-machinists WENT FOR him with a chopper.

1892. *Tit Bits*, 19 Mar., p. 424, c. 1. So it comes to much the same thing,

with the exception that you cannot indulge in the sad delight of GOING FOR Master Bertie sometimes as you might do were he a member of your own household.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 123. "Well mate, GO FOR HIM, and we'll keep the cops off till you settle his hash."

3. (colloquial).—To support; to favour; to vote for.

4. (theatrical).—To criticise; specifically, to run down. [An extension of sense 2.] For synonyms, see RUN DOWN.

TO GO IN FOR (or AT), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To enter for; to apply oneself to (*e.g.*, TO GO IN FOR honours). Also to devote oneself to (*e.g.*, to pay court); to take up (as a pastime, pursuit, hobby, or principle). Closely allied to GO FOR.

1836. C. DICKENS, *Pickwick Papers*, p. 18 (ed. 1857). This advice was very like that which bystanders invariably give to the smallest boy in a street fight; namely, 'GO IN, and win': an admirable thing to recommend, if you only know how to do it.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. xviii., p. 162. Sometimes I GO IN AT the butcher madly, and cut my knuckles open against his face.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, iii., 3. GO IN FOR money—Money's the article.

1869. WHYTE MELVILLE, *M. or N.*, p. 31. Long before he had reached his uncle's house, he had made up his mind to GO IN, as he called it, for Miss Bruce, morally confident of winning, yet troubled with certain chilling misgivings, as fearing that this time he had really fallen in love.

1870. *Agricultural Jour.*, Feb. Men who GO IN FOR bathing, running, etc.

1872. BESANT AND RICE, *My Little Girl* (in *Once a Week*, 14 Dec., p. 508). He had, after a laborious and meritorious career at Aberdeen, GONE IN FOR Scotch mission work in Constantinople.

1873. MISS BROUGHTON, *Nancy*, ch. xlv. His cheeks are flushed; he is laughing loudly, and GOING IN heavily FOR the champagne.



1883. JAMES PAYN, *Thicker than Water*, ch. xx. This is very nice, but I do wonder, Mrs. Tidman, that you never GO IN FOR CURRES.

1890. H. D. TRAILL, 'A Noble Watchword,' *Sat. Songs*, p. 58. To GO IN solid for the cause how noble! (though, 'tis true, We must hope at next election that you'll GO IN liquid, too).

To GO IN UNTO, *verb. phr.* (Biblical). — To have sexual intercourse with. For synonyms, see GREENS AND RIDE.

1892. *Bible*, Gen. xxx. 3. Behold my maid Bilhah, GO IN UNTO her.

To GO IT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To act with vigour and daring; to advocate or speak strongly; to live freely. Also to GO IT BLIND, FAST, BALD-HEADED, STRONG, etc. Cf., DASH.

1689 (in ARBER, *Eng. Garner*, vol. VII., p. 365). When these had shared her cargo, they parted company: the French with their shares WENT IT for Petty Guavas in the Grand Gustaphus.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* [people's ed.], p. 67. Logic, under the domino, had been GOING IT on a few of his friends with much humour.

*Ibid.*, p. 22. To GO IT, where's a place like London?

1837. R. H. BARHAM, *The Ingoldsby Legends* (Ed. 1862), p. 375. For of this be assured, if you GO IT TOO FAST, you'll be 'dished' like Sir Guy.

1846-48. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, vol. I., ch. 26. 'He's GOING IT PRETTY FAST,' said the clerk.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. 6. I say young Copperfield, you're GOING IT.

1841. DOW, *Sermons*, vol. I., p. 176. I would have you understand, my dear hearers, that I have no objection to some of the sons and daughters of the earth GOING IT, while they are young, provided they don't GO IT TOO STRONG.

1864. *Fraser's Mag.*, Aug., p. 54. But what if that O, brave heart? Art thou a labourer? Labour on, Art thou a poet? GO IT STRONG.

1880. MILLIKEN, in *Punch's Almanack* Apr. Nobby togs, high jinks, and lots o' lotion, That's the style to GO IT, I've a notion.

*Intj.* (common). — Keep at it! Keep it up! — a general (sometimes ironical) expression of encouragement. Also GO IT YE GRIPPLES, CRUTCHES ARE CHEAP! (OF NEWGATE'S ON FIRE); GO IT, MY TULIP; GO IT MY GAY AND FESTIVE CUSS! (Artemus Ward); or (American) GO IT BOOTS! GO IT RAGS! I'LL HOLD YOUR BONNET! G'LANG! (usually to a man making the pace on foot or horseback.) For similar expressions see MOTHER. Fr., *hardi!*

1840. THACKERAY, *Cox's Diary*. Come along this way, ma'am! Go IT, YE CRIPPLES!

1854. THACKERAY, *The Rose and the Ring*, p. 92. 'GO IT, old boy!' cried the impetuous Smith.

1868. MISS BRADDON, *Trail of the Serpent*, bk. I., ch. iii. Three cheers for red! GO IT—GO IT, red!

1890. *Tit Bits*, 1 Mar., p. 325. 'Not for Joe' . . . came from a once popular song. So did GO IT, YOU CRIPPLES.

To GO OUT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To fall into disuse.

1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 113. Pockets, . . . to use the flippant idiom of the day, are GOING OUT.

To GO OVER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — I. To desert from one side to another; specifically (clerical) to join the Church of Rome; to VERT (*q.v.*).

1861. THACKERAY, *Lovel the Widower*, ch. ii. I remember Pye, of Maudlin, just before he WENT OVER, was perpetually in Miss Prior's back parlour with little books, pictures, medals, etc.

1878. MISS BRADDON, *Open Verdict*, ch. vi. Mr. Dulcimer is a horrid person to tell you such stories; and after this, I shouldn't be at all surprised at his GOING OVER to Rome.

2. (colloquial). — To die; *i.e.*, to GO OVER TO join the majority. Also to GO OFF. To GO OFF

THE HOOKS, TO GO UNDER, TO GO ALOFT, and TO GO UP.

1848. RUKTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 4. 'A sight, marm, this coon's GONE OVER.' *Ibid.*, p. 3. Them three's all GONE UNDER.

3. (thieves')—To attack, rifle, and rob.

1889. *Referee*, 2 June. A few who had . . . GONE OVER the landlord, left him skinned.

TO GO OFF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—I. To take place; to occur.

1866. MRS. GASKELL, *Wives and Daughters*, ch. xiv. The wedding WENT OFF much as such affairs do.

2. (colloquial).—To be disposed of (as goods on sale, or a woman in marriage).

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 208. Miss Malderton was as well known as the lion on the top of Northumberland House, and had an equal chance of GOING OFF.

3. (colloquial).—To deteriorate (as fish by keeping, or a woman with years).

1883. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 16 Apr., p. 3, c. 2. Shotover rather WENT OFF in the Autumn, and her Leger preparation was not altogether satisfactory.

1892. *Tit-Bits*, 17 Sept., p. 422, c. 3. To those . . . who are apt to GO OFF COLOUR, so to speak, through injudicious indulgence at table.

4. (colloquial).—To die. For synonyms, see ALOFT.

1606. SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, v., 7. I would the friends we miss were safe arrived: Some must GO OFF.

1836. C. DICKENS, *Pickwick Papers* (about 1827), p. 368 (Ed. 1857). She's dead, God bless her, and thank him for it! —was seized with a fit and WENT OFF.

GO AS YOU PLEASE, *adj. phr.* (athletics').—Applied to races where the competitors can run, walk, or rest at will: *e.g.*, in time and distance races. Hence, general freedom of action.

1884. *Punch*, 11 Oct. 'Arry at a Political Picnic.' 'Twas regular GO AS YOU PLEASE.

TO GO TO BATH, PUTNEY, etc.—See BATH, BLAZES, HELL, HALIFAX, etc.

TO GO THROUGH, *verb. phr.* (American).—I. To rob: *i.e.*, to turn inside out. Hence, to master violently and completely; to make an end of.

1872. *Evening Standard*, 21 June. The roughs would work their will, and, in their own phrase, GO THROUGH New York pretty effectually.

1888. *Baltimore Sun*. He was garrotted, and the two robbers WENT THROUGH him before he could reach the spot.

*Ibid.* It was a grand sight to see Farnsworth GO THROUGH him; he did not leave him a single leg to stand upon.

2. (venery).—To possess a woman. For synonyms, see RIDE.

TO GO UP (OR UNDER), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—I. To go to wreck and ruin; to become bankrupt; to disappear from society. Also, to die. For synonyms, see DEADBROKE.

1864. *The Index*, June. Soon after the blockade, many thought we should GO UP on the salt question.

1879. JAS. PAVN, *High Spirits (Finding His Level)*. Poor John Weybridge, Esq., became as friendless as penniless, and eventually WENT UNDER, and was heard of no more.

1890. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 29 May, p. 5, c. 1. He asks us further to state that the strike is completely at an end, the society having GONE UNDER.

2. (colloquial).—To die: *Cf.* Ger.: *untergehen*. For synonyms, see ALOFT.

18(?) *Hawkeye, The Iowa Chief*, p. 210. Poor Hawkeye felt, says one of his biographers, that his time had come, and

knowing that he must GO UNDER sooner or later, he determined to sell his life dearly.

1849. RUXTON, *Life in the far West*, p. 2. Them three s all GONE UNDER.

1888. *Daily Inter. Ocean*, Mar. All solemnly vowed to see that the mine should be worked solely for the benefit of the girl whether Jim lived or had GONE UNDER.

TO GO UP, *verb. phr.* (American).—To die; specifically to die by the rope.

1887. HEPWORTH DIXON, *New America*, i., 11. Unruly citizens are summarily hung on a cotton tree, and when any question is asked about them, the answer is briefly given, GONE UP—*i.e.*, gone up the cotton tree, or suspended from one of its branches.

TO GO UP FOR, *verb. phr.* (common).—To enter for (as an examination).

1889. *Globe*, 12 Oct., p. 1, c. 4. Always, it seems likely, there will be men GOING UP for examinations; and every now and again, no doubt, there will be among them a wily 'Heathen Pass-ee' like him of whom Mr. Hilton speaks—who had cribs up his sleeve, and notes on his cuff.

TO GO WITH, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To agree or harmonise with. See GEE.

2. (colloquial).—To share the sexual embrace. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

ON THE GO, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—On the move; restlessly active.

NO GO, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Of no use; not to be done; a complete failure. Frequently contracted to N.G.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 18. I know something about this here family, and my opinion is, it's NO GO.

1853. *Diogenes*, vol. II., p. 271. Dear master, don't think of me ill; If I say—as the lists are NO GO—You've in future no fear for the till!

1884. *Notes and Queries*, 6 S., x., p. 125. There were on the occasion so many rounds and so many NO GOES.

1888. *Puck's Library*, May, p. 12. He thought a moment, and shook his head. It's NO GO was the dictum.

1890. *Punch*, 22 Feb., p. 85. He's a long-winded lot, is Buchanan, slops over tremendous, he do; . . . But cackle and splutter ain't swimming; so Robert, my nabs, it's NO GO.

1892. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-FRAED, *Ladies' Gallery*, p. 84. She sees it is NO GO with the baronet.

A LITTLE BIT ON THE GO, *adv. phr.* (old).—Slightly inebriated; elevated. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry* [peoples' ed.], p. 58. The Corinthian had made him a LITTLE BIT ON THE GO.

GOAD, *subs.* (old).—1. A decoy at auctions; a horse-chaunter; a PETER FUNK (*q.v.*). [One who goads (*i.e.*, sends up) the prices.]

1609. DEKKER, *Lanthorne and Candle light*, ch. x. They that stand by and conycatche the chapman either with out-bidding, false praises, etc., are called GOADES.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GOADS, those that wheedle in Chapmen for Horse-coursers,

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. *in. pl.* (old).—False dice.—CHAPMAN. For synonyms, see IVORIES.

GOAL, *subs.* (Winchester College).

—1. At football the boy who stands at the centre of each end, acting as umpire; and (2) the score of three points made when the ball is kicked between his legs, or over his head without his touching it.

1870. MANSFIELD, *School-Life at Winchester College*, p. 138. Midway between each of the two ends of the line was stationed another boy, as umpire (GOAL, he was called) who stood with his legs wide apart, and a gown rolled up at each foot: if the ball was kicked directly over his head, or between his legs, without his touching it, it was a GOAL, and scored three for the party that kicked it.

GOALER'S COACH. See GAOLER'S COACH.



**GO-ALONG**, *subs.* (thieves'). — A fool; a FLAT (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE HEAD.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 460. In four days my adviser left me; he had no more use for me. I was a flat. He had me for a GO-ALONG, to cry his things for him.

1853. *Household Words*, No. 183. s.v. 'Slang.'

**GOAT**, *subs.* (old). — A lecher; a MOLROWER (*q.v.*).

1599. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V.*, iv., 4. Thou damn'd and luxurious mountain GOAT.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GOAT, a Lecher, a very lascivious person.

1717. CIBBER, *Nonjuror*, i., 1. At the tea-table I have seen the impudent GOAT most lusciously sip off her leavings.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

*Verb* (common). — I. To thrash. For synonyms, see TAN.

1864. *Derby Day*, p. 70. You won't GOAT me? Not this journey.

TO PLAY THE GOAT. *verb. phr.* (common). — I. To play the fool; to MONKEY (*q.v.*). Fr., *faire l'oiseau*.

2. (venery). — To lead a fast life; to be given to MOLROWING (*q.v.*).

TO RIDE THE GOAT, *verb. phr.* (common). — To be initiated into a secret society. [From the vulgar error that a live goat, for candidates to ride, is one of the standing properties of a Masonic lodge.]

**GOATEE**, *subs.* (colloquial). — A tufted beard on the point of a shaven chin. [In imitation of the tuft of hair on a goat's chin.]

ENGLISH SYNONYMS (for a beard generally). — Charley; imperial; Newgate (or sweep's) frill, or fringe.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Une marmouse* (thieves'); *un impériale* (colloquial: formerly *une royale*); *un bouc* or *une bouquine* (= a goatee); *bacchantes* (thieves': the beard, but more especially the whiskers, from *bâche* = awning).

GERMAN SYNONYM. — *Soken* (from the Hebrew; also = old man).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS. — *Bosco di berlo* (the forest on the face); *settosà* (= full of hair); *spinola* (= thorny).

SPANISH SYNONYM. — *Bosque* (= wood).

1869. *Orchestra*, 18 June. Working carpenters with a straggling GOATEE on the chin, and a mass of unkempt hair on the head.

**GOATER**, *subs.* (American thieves'). — Dress. For synonyms, see Togs.

**GOAT - HOUSE**, *subs.* (old). — A brothel. [From GOAT, *subs.*, sense 1.] For synonyms, see NANNY-SHOP.

**GOATISH**, *adj.* (old, now recognised). — Lecherous. [As vicing with a goat in lust.] Hence GOATISHLY, *adv.*, and GOATISHNESS, *subs.*

1622. MASSINGER AND DEKKER, *Virgin Martyr*, iii., 1. Give your chaste body up to the embraces of GOATISH lust.

1805. SHAKESPEARE, *King Lear*, i. 2. An admirable evasion of whoremaster man, to lay his GOATISH disposition to the charge of a star.

**GOAT-MILKER**, *subs.* (venery).—1. A prostitute. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

2. (venery).—The female *pu-dendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**GOAT'S JIG** (or **GIGG**), *subs.* (old).—Copulation. For synonyms, *see* GREENS.—GROSE.

**GO-AWAY**, *subs.* (American thieves').—A railway-train.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*, s.v. The knuck was working the GOAWAYS at Jersey City.

**GOB** (or **GOBBETT**), *subs.* (old: now vulgar). 1. A portion; a mouthful; a morsel. Also a gulp; a BOLT (*q.v.*). [Latin, *gob* = mouth: Old Fr., *gob* = a gulp.] Skeat says the shorter form GOB is rare.

1380. WYCLIFFE, *Trans. of Bible*. Thei token the relifs of broken GOBETIS twelve cofres full.

1542. *Apoph. of Erasmus* [1878], p. 14. A bodie thinketh hymself well emende in his substaunce and riches, to whom hath happened some good GUBBE of money, and maketh a great whynyng if he haue had any losse of the same.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stuffe*, in wks., v. 261. And thrust him downe his pudding house at a GOBBE.

1605. CHAPMAN, *All Fools*, Act iii., p. 62 (*Plays*, 1874). *Rt.* And do you think He'll swallow down the gudgeon? *Go.* O my life, It were a gross GOB would not down with him.

1611. L. BARRY, *Ram. Alley*, l., i. That little land he gave, Throate the lawyer swallowed at one GOB For less than half the worth.

1689. SEIDEN, *Table-Talk*, p. 50 (Arber's ed.). The meaning of the Law was, that so much should be taken from a man, such a GOBBET sliced off, that yet notwithstanding he might live in the same Rank and Condition he lived in before; but now they Fine men ten times more than they are worth.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Canting Crew*, s.v. Gob(c) . . . also a Bit or Morsel; hence GOBBETS, now more in use for little Bits.

1748. T. DVCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GOB or GOBBET (*s.*) a piece just big enough, or fit to be put into the mouth at once.

1774. FOOTE, *Cozeners*, ii., 2. The venison was over-roasted, and stunk—but Doctor Dewlap twisted down such GOBS of fat.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1816. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.* (12th ed.) GOB, a small quantity, a low word.

1869. S. L. CLEMENS (M. Twain), *Innocents Abroad*, ch. vii. It is pushed out into the sea on the end of a flat, narrow strip of land, and is suggestive of a GOB of mud on the end of a shingle.

2. (common).—The mouth. SHUT YOUR GOB = an injunction to silence. *See* GAB. A SPANK ON THE GOB = a blow on the mouth. GOB-FULL OF CLARET = a bleeding at the mouth. GIFT OF THE GAB or GOB, *see* GAB. For synonyms *see* POTATO-TRAP.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. Gob, the Mouth.

1819. T. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial*, p. 18. *Home-hits* in the bread-basket, clicks in the GOB. *Ibid.*, p. 30.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. 1. 'All right—all right,' I then exclaimed, as I thrust half a doubled-up muffin into my gob.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 459. I managed somehow to turn my GOB (mouth) round and gnawed it away.

3. (common).—A mouthful of spittle. Fr., *un copeau*; It., *smalzo di cavigio* (=gutter-butter). For synonyms, *see* SIXPENCES.

*Verb.* (common).—1. To swallow in mouthfuls; to gulp down. Also GOBBLE (*q.v.*).

1692. L'ESTRANGE *Fables*. Down comes a kite powdering upon them, and GOBBETS up both together.

2. (common). — To expectorate. Fr., *glavioter* (popular); *molarder*.

**GOBBIE**, *subs.* (nautical). — A coast-guardsmen; whence GOBBIE-SHIP, a man of war engaged in the preventive service.

1890. *Scotsman*, 4 Aug. When a meeting takes place the men indulge in a protracted yarn and a draw of the pipe. The session involves a considerable amount of expectoration all round, whereby our friends come to be known as GOBBIES, and in process of time the term came to be applied to the ships engaged in the service. *Ibid.* There are no fewer than three other GOBBIE SHIPS in the channel fleet, each of which carries a considerable number of coastguardsmen putting in their annual period of drill.

**GOBBLE** (OR **GOBBLE UP**), *verb.* (vulgar). — To swallow hastily or greedily; hence (American) to seize, capture, or appropriate. Also GOB: *e.g.*, GOB that!

1602. DEKKER, *Satiro-mastix*, in wks. (1873) i. 233. They will come to GOBBLE downe Plummes.

1728. SWIFT, *Misc. Poems*, in wks. (1824) xiv. 232. The time too precious now to waste, The supper GOBBLED up in haste.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. cvi. Summoned in such a plaguy hurry from his dinner, which he had been fain to GOBBLE up like a cannibal.

1846-48. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, vol. i, ch. v. Mr. Jos. . . . helped Rebecca to everything on the table, and himself GOBBLED and drank a great deal.

1860. THACKERAY, *Philip*, ch. xiii. There was a wily old monkey who thrust the cat's paw out, and proposed to GOBBLE up the smoking prize.

**GOBBLE-PRICK**, *subs.* (old). — A lecherous woman. — GROSE.

**GOBBLER**, *subs.* (old). — 1. A duck. — HARMAN.

2. (colloquial). — A turkey cock; a BUBBLY - JOCK (*q.v.*). Also GOBBLE-CKOCK.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1851. HOOPER, *Widow Rugby's Husband*, etc., p. 94. Her face was as red as a GOBBLER'S snout.

3. (vulgar). — The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

4. (colloquial). — A greedy eater. For synonyms, see STODGER.

**GOBBLING**, *subs.* (vulgar). — Gorging.

1846-48. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch. iii., vol. i. His mouth was full of it, his face quite red with the delightful exercise of GOBBLING 'Mother, it's as good as my own curries in India.'

**GO-BETWEEN**, *subs.* (old). — A pimp or bawd. Now an intermediary of any kind.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Act ii., sc. 2. Even as you came into me, her assistant, or GO-BETWEEN, parted from me.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GOBLIN**, *subs.* (old). — A sovereign. For synonyms, see CANARY.

1887. W. E. HENLEY, *Villon's Straight Tip*. Your merry GOBLINS soon stravag: Boose and the blowens cop the lot.

**GOB-BOX**, *subs.* (common). — The mouth. [From GOB, *subs.*] For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1773. FORSTER, *Goldsmith*, Bk. IV., ch. xiv., p. 414 (5th ed.). Shuter protesting in his vehement odd way that 'the boy could patter,' and 'use the GOB-BOX as quick and smart as any of them.'

1819. SCOTT, *Bride of Lammermoor*, ch. i. Your characters . . . made too much use of the GOB-BOX; they patter too much.



**GOb-STICK**, *subs.* (old).—A silver table-spoon. (In use in America = either spoon or fork); (nautical), a horn or wooden spoon.

1789. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**GOb-STRING** (or **GAB-STRING**), *subs.* (old).—A bridle.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GO-BY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The act of passing; an evasion; a deception. TO GIVE ONE THE GO-BY = to cut; to leave in the lurch. *Cf.*, CUT (*subs.* sense 2, *verb.* sense 2).

1876. HINDLEY, *Cheap Jack*, p. 214. When we came in contact with a travelling bookseller we could GIVE HIM THE GO-BY with our library.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, ch. ix. She GAVE US THE GO-BY in the fog—as I wish from the heart that ye had done yourself!

1892. *Sala's Journal*, 25 June, p. 194. Now can you understand how it is possible, and, I think, expedient, TO GIVE politics THE GO-BY, so far as one conveniently can?

**GO-BY-THE-GROUND**, *subs.* (old).—A dumpy inan or woman.—GROSE.

**GOD**, *subs.* (common).—I. *in. pl.*, the occupants of the gallery at a theatre. [Said to have been first used by Garrick because they were seated on high, and close to the sky-painted ceiling.] *Fr.*, *paradis* = gallery; also *poulailler*. In feminine, **GODDESS**.

1772. CUMBERLAND, *Fashionable Lover* [probably spoken by printer's devil]. 'Tis odds For one poor devil to face so many GODS.

1812. J. and H. SMITH, *Rejected Addresses*, p. 128 [ed. 1869]. Each one shilling GOD within reach of a nod is, And plain are the charms of each gallery GODDESS.

1843. THACKERAY, *Irish Sketch Book*, ch. xxvii. The gallery was quite full . . . one young GOD, between the acts, favoured the public with a song.

1872. M. E. BRADDON, *Dead Sea Fruit*, ch. xiv. There come occasionally actors and actresses of higher repute, eager to gather new laurels in these untrodden regions, and not ill pleased to find themselves received with noisy rapture and outspoken admiration by the ruder GODS and homelier GODDESSES of a threepenny gallery.

1890. *Globe*, 7 Apr., p. 2, c. 2. The GODS, or a portion of them, hooted and hissed while the National Anthem was being performed.

1892. SYDNEY WATSON, *Wops the Waif*, iii., iv. It is only when we have paid our 'tuppence' and ascended to the gallery just under the roof, known as 'among the GODS,' that we begin to understand what is meant by the lowest classes, the 'great unwashed.'

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 20 Apr., p. 2, c. 3. If theatre managers would only give the public the chance of as good a seat as can be got at the Trocadero or the Pavilion, at the same price, and manage the ventilation of their houses so as not to bake the GODS and freeze the 'pitites,' I venture to think that fewer people would go to the music halls.

2. *in. pl.* (printers').—The quadrats used in JEFFING (*q.v.*).

3. (tailors').—A block pattern. GODS OF CLOTH = 'classical tailors.'—GROSE. *See* SNIP.

4. (Eton).—A boy in the sixth form.

1881. PASCOE, *Life in our Public Schools*. A GOD at Eton is probably in a more exalted position, and receives more reverence than will ever afterwards fall to his lot.

A SIGHT FOR THE GODS, *phr.* (common).—A matter of wonderment.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 31. Stringy Bark prepared to greet his native land, was A SIGHT FOR THE GODS to behold with satisfaction, and men to view from afar with awed respect.

**GOD PAYS!** *phr.* (old).—An expression at one time much in the mouth of disbanded soldiers and sailors (who assumed a right to live on the public charity). The modern form is, 'If I don't pay you, God Almighty will.'

1605. *London Prodigal*, ii., 3. But there be some that bear a soldier's form, That swear by him they never think upon; Go swaggering up and down, from house to house, Crying, GOD PAYS.

1630. TAYLOR, in *wks.* These feather'd fidlers sing, and leape, and play, The begger takes delight, and GOD DOTH PAY.

1640. BEN JONSON, *Epigr. XII.* To every cause he meets, this voice he brays, His only answer is to all, GOD PAYS.

**GOD (or BRAMAH) KNOWS: I DON'T,** *phr.* (common).—An emphatic rejoinder.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes.* Come Iddio vel dica., a phrase, as wee would say: GOD HIMSELFE TELL YOU, I CANNOT.

**GODDESS DIANA,** *subs. phr.* (rhyming). A sixpence. For synonyms, see TANNER.

1864. *The Press*, 12 Nov. GODDESS DIANA is the rhyming equivalent for a tanner which signifies sixpence.

**GOD-DOT!** *intj.* (old).—An oath. By God! [A contraction of 'God wot!'] For synonyms, see OATHS.

**GODFATHER,** *subs.* (old).—A juryman.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, iv. 1. In christ'ning thou shalt have two GODFATHERS, Had I been judge, thou should'st have had ten more, To bring thee to the gallows, not the font.

1616. BEN JONSON, *Devil's An Ass*, v., 5. Not I, If you be such a one, sir, I will leave you To your GOD-FATHERS IN LAW. Let twelve men work.

1638. RANDOLPH, *Muses' Looking Glass*, ix. 251. I had rather zee him remitted to the jail, and have his twelve GODVATHERS, good men and true, condemn him to the gallows.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**TO STAND GODFATHER,** *verb. phr.* (common).—To pay the reckoning. [Godfathers being the objects of much solicitude and expectation.]

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. Will you stand GODFATHER, and we will take care of the brat? = repay you another time.

**GO-DOWN,** *subs.* (old).—1. A draught of liquor; a GO (*q.v.*).

2. (American).—See quot.

1881. *New York Times*, 18 Dec., quoted in 'N and Q' 6, S.v. 65. *Go Down.*—A cutting in the bank of a stream for enabling animals to cross or to get to water.

**GOD-PERMIT,** *subs.* (old).—A stage coach. [Which was advertised to start *Deo volente.*]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GOD-PERMIT, a stage coach, from that affectation of piety, frequently to be met with in advertisements of stage coaches or waggons, where most of their undertakings are promised with if GOD PERMIT, or GOD WILLING.

1825. *Modern Flash Dict.*, s.v.

**GOD'S MERCY,** *subs.* (old).—Ham (or bacon) and eggs. ['There's nothing in the house but God's mercy': at one time a common answer in country inns to travellers in quest of provant.]

**GOD'S-PENNY,** *subs.* (old).—An earnest penny.

1690. B. E., *Dict. of the Cant. Crew*, s.v. GOD'S PENNY, Earnest Money, to Bind a Bargain.

1765. PERCY, *Reliques*, 'The heir of Linne.' Then John he did him to record draw, And John he cast him a God's PENNIE.

**GO-EASTER,** *subs.* (American cow-boys').—A portmanteau; a PETER (*q.v.*). [Because seldom used except in going city- or east-wards.]

**GOER**, *subs.* (old).—1. The foot.  
For synonyms, *see* CREEPERS.

1557-1634. CHAPMAN, in *Encyclop. Dict.* A double mantle, cast Athwart his shoulders, his faire GOERS grac't With fitted shoes.

2. (colloquial).—An expert or adept; as in drawing, talking, riding; one well up to his (or her) work: generally with an adjective, as *e.g.*, A FAST (OR HELL OF A) GOER = a good goer.

1857. G. A. LAWRENCE, *Guy Livingstone*, ch. xx. Nevertheless, she was always deeply engaged, and generally to the best GOERS in the room.

**GOFF**. *See* MRS. GOFF.

**GOGGLES**, *subs.* (common).—1. A goggle-eyed person. Also GOGGLER.

1647. BEAUMONT AND FLETCHER, *Knight of Malta*, v., 2. Do you stare, GOGGLES?

1891. CLARK RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 51. No use sending blind man aloft, GOGGLERS like myself, worse luck.

2. *in. pl.* (common).—The eyes: specifically those with a constrained or rolling stare; also GOGGLE-EYES. GOGGLE-EYED = squint-eyed.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, *Strabo*, he that looketh a squint or is GOGGLE-EIDE.

c. 1746. ROBERTSON OF STRUAN, *Poems*, 69. An eagle of a dwarfish size, With crooked Beak, and GOGLE EYES.

1691-1763. BYROM, *Dissection of a Beau's Head*. Those muscles, in English, wherewith a man ogles, When on a fair lady he fixes his GOGGLES.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1821. PIERCE EGAN, *Life in London*, p. 241. Rolling your GOGGLES about after all manner of people.

3. *in. pl.* (common).—Spectacles. For synonyms, *see* BARNACLES.

*Verb* (colloquial).—GOGGLE = to roll the eyes; to stare.

1577-87. HOLINSHED, *Description of Ireland*, ch. i. They GOGGLE with their eyes hither and thither.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GOGGLE, to stare.

1820-37. WALPOLE, *Letters*, iii., 174. He GOGGLED his eyes.

1880. MILLIKIN, *Punch's Almanack*, April. Scissors! don't they GOGGLE and look blue.

**GOGMAGOG**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A goblin; a monster; a frightful apparition.—HOOD.

**GOING**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The condition of a road, a piece of ground, a cinder-path: *i.e.*, the accommodation for travelling. *E.g.*, THE GOING is bad.

1872. *Morning Post*, 19 Aug. The Lamb's starting in the Frankfort steeplechase will depend upon the state of the ground, and, avoiding Wiesbaden, where the GOING is indifferent.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 23 Nov. The GOING was wonderfully clean for the time of year.

**GOINGS-ON**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Behaviour; proceedings; conduct. *Cf.*, CARRYINGS-ON.

1845. DOUGLAS JERROLD, *Mrs. Caudle*, Lecture viii. Pretty place it must be where they don't admit women. Nice GOINGS-ON, I daresay, Mr. Caudle.

1870. *Lloyd's Newspaper*, 11 Sept. 'Review.' Elsie is beloved by Gawthwaite, the village schoolmaster, and he takes her to task for her GOINGS-ON.

**GOLDARNED** (or **GOLDURNED**, **GOLDASTED**, etc.), *adj.* (common).—A mild form of oath := BLAMED (*q.v.*); BLOODY (*q.v.*). *See* OATHS. As *intj.*, GOLDARN IT! etc.

1888. *American Humorist*. 'Bill, are you hurt?' 'Yes, by gum; I've broke my GOLDARNED neck.'



1888. *Cincinnati Enquirer*. Finally, Deacon Spalding broke out with: 'That GOLDASTED St. Louis mugwump has made suckers of us again with his cracks about coming into the league. I move we adjourn.'

**GOLD-BACKED 'UN**, *subs.* (common).

—A louse. Also **GREY-BACKED 'UN**. For synonyms, see **CHATES**.

**GOLD BUG**, *subs. phr.* (American).

—A man of wealth and (inferentially) distinction; a millionaire. See **BUG**.

1888. *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, Mar. 5. I do not think the feeling against silver is anything like as strong as it was. Of course, a few **GOLD BUGS** might fight him.

**GOLD-DROPPER**, *subs.* (old). — A sharper. An old-time worker of the confidence trick. See *quots.* Also **GOLD-FINDER**.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. **GOLD-DROPPERS**, Sweetners, Cheats, Sharpers.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). **GOLD-FINDER** (s.) . . . also a cant name for a cheat, who under the pretence of finding a piece of money, and inviting a by-stander to partake of a treat, etc., out of it, endeavours to get him to play at cards, dice, etc., in order to win or cheat him of his money; they are sometimes also called *guinea-droppers*.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Sharpers who drop a piece of gold, which they pick up in the presence of some un-experienced person, for whom the trap is laid, this they pretend to have found, and, as he saw them pick it up, they invite him to a public house to partake of it: when there, two or three of their comrades drop in, as if by accident, and propose cards, or some other game, when they seldom fail of stripping their prey.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GOLDEN-CREAM**, *subs.* (thieves'). — Rum.

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321, s.v.

**GOLD-END MAN**, *subs. phr.* (old).

—An itinerant jeweller; a buyer of old gold and silver. [**GOLD-END** = a broken piece of

jewellery.] Also **GOLDSMITH'S APPRENTICE**. See *Eastward Hoe*.

1610. JONSON, *Alchemist*, ii., 1. I know him not, he looks like a **GOLD-END MAN**.

1622. FLETCHER, *Beggar's Bush*, iii., 1. *Hig*. Have ye any **ENDS OF GOLD** or silver?

**GOLDEN GREASE**, *subs. phr.* (old).

—A fee; also a bribe. For synonyms, see **PALM OIL**.

**GOLDFINCH**, *subs.* (old). — I. A well-to-do man; a **WARM 'UN** (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **GOLDFINCH**, c. He that has always a Purse or Cod of Gold in his Fob.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries*, etc., of New York, ch. iv. 'Was the swell a **GOLDFINCH**?' 'He wasn't nothin' else. Got a clean ten times ten out of him.'

*Ibid.* 'It'll be a great lay, if the game's fat. Is it a **GOLDFINCH**?' 'Fifty thousand, hard dust.'

2. (common). — A guinea; a sovereign. For synonyms, see **CANARY**.

1700. FARQUHAR, *Constant Couple*, ii., 2. *Sir H.* Don't you love singing-birds, madam? *Angel (aside)*. That's an odd question for a lover! (*aloud*) Yes, sir. *Sir H.* Why, then, madam, here is a nest of the prettiest **GOLDFINCHES** that ever chirped in a cage.

1822. SCOTT, *The Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. iv. Put your monies aside, my lord; it is not well to be seen with such **GOLDFINCHES** chirping about one in the lodgings of London.

1826. BUCKSTONE, *Luke the Labourer*, iii., 4. Good-night, noble captain. Pipe all hands at five o'clock, for I've a day's work to do. We'll jig it to-morrow, to the piping of **GOLD-FINCHES**.

1834. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, p. 101 (ed. 1864). Here's a handful of **GOLDFINCHES** ready to fly.

**GOLDFINCH'S NEST**, *subs.* (venery).

—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

1827. *The Merry Muses*, p. 70. And soon laid his hand on the **GOLDFINCH'S NEST**.

**GOLD-FINDER**, *subs.* (old).—I. An emptier of privies. Also **TOM-TURD-MAN**; **GONG-MAN**; and **NIGHT-MAN**. Fr., *un fouille-merde*; *un fifi*. Also *passer la jambe à Jules*=to upset Mrs. JONES, *i.e.*, to empty the privy tub.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie, Cadouard*, a GOULD-FINDER, Jakes-farmer.

1635. FELTHAM, *Resolves*. As our GOLDFINDERS . . . in the night and darkness thrive on stench and excrements.

1653. MIDDLETON, *Sa. Gipsy*, ii., 2, p. 398 (Mermaid series). And if his acres, being sold for a maravedii a turf for larks in cages, cannot fill this pocket, give 'em to GOLDFINDERS.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabolario*, s.v.

1704. *Gentleman Instructed*, p. 445 (1732). We will commit the further discussion of the poet to a committee of GOLDFINDERS, or a club of rake-kennels.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v

2. (old).—A thief; a GOLD-DROPPER (*q.v.*).

**GOLD HAT-BAND**, *subs.* (old University).—A nobleman undergraduate; a TUFT (*q.v.*).

1628. EARLE, *Microcosmography*. His companion is ordinarily some stale fellow that has been notorious for an inglet to GOLD HATBANDS, whom hee admires at first, afterwards scornes.

1889. *Gentleman's Mag.*, June, p. 598. Noblemen at the universities, since known as 'tufts,' because of the gold tuft or tassel to their cap, were then known as GOLD HATBANDS.

**GOLDIE-LOCKS**, *subs.* (old).—A flaxen-haired woman. **GOLDY-LOCKED**=golden haired.

1598. FLORIO, *Worldie of Wordes*. *Biondella* . . . a golden-lockt wench, as we say a GOLDILOCKS.

1605. BEN JONSON, *The Fox*, i., 1. Thence it fled forth, and made quick transmigration to GOLDY-LOCKED Euphorbus.

**GOLD MINE**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A profitable investment; a store of wealth, material or intellectual.

1664. H. PEACHAM, *Worth of a Penny*, in Arber's *Garner*, vol. VI., p. 249. Some men . . . when they have met with a GOLD MINE, so brood over and watch it, day and night, that it is impossible for Charity to be regarded, Virtue rewarded, or Necessity relieved.

1830. TENNYSON, *Dream of Fair Women*, p. 274. GOLD-MINES of thought—to lift the hidden ore.

1882. THORMANBY, *Famous Racing Men*, p. 31. Mendicant . . . ran nowhere in the Cup . . . in reality she was destined to prove a GOLD MINE, for ten years afterwards she brought her owner £80,000 through her famous son, Beadsman.

1883. *Sat. Review*, 28 Apr. 533/2. His victory proved a GOLD MINE to the professional bookmakers.

1887. FROUDE, *Eng. in West Indies*, ch. v. Every one was at law with his neighbour, and the island was a GOLD MINE to the Attorney-General.

**GOLGOTHA**, *subs.* (old).—I. The Dons' gallery at Cambridge; also applied to a certain part of the theatre at Oxford. [That is, 'the place of skulls': Cf., Luke xxiii. 33, and Matthew xxvii. 33, whence the pun: Dons being the heads of houses.]

1730. JAS. MILLER, *Humours of Oxford*, Act ii., p. 23 (2nd ed.). Sirrah, I'll have you put in the black-book, rusticated,—expelled—I'll have you *coram nobis* at GOLGOTHA, where you'll be bedevilled, Muck-worm, you will.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1791. G. HUDDSFORD, *Salmagundi*, (Note on, p. 150). GOLGOTHA, 'The place of a Scull,' a name ludicrously affixed to the Place in which the Heads of Colleges assemble.

1808. J. T. CONYBEARE in C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence* (1888), i., 324. The subject then, of the ensuing section is *Oxford News* . . . we will begin by GOLGOTHA . . . Cole has already obtained the Headship of Exeter, and Mr. Griffiths . . . is to have that of University.

2. (common).—Hence, a hat.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Battle of the Nile (rhyming, *i.e.*, a TILE (*q.v.*); bell-topper; billy-cock; beaver; box-hat; cady; canister cap; castor; chummy; cathedral; chimney; chimney-pot; cock; collegier; cock-and-pinch; cowshooter; David; deer-stalker; digger's delight; fantail; felt; Gibus; gomer (Winchester); goss; moab; molocher; mortar-board; muffin-cap; mushroom; nab; nap; napper; pantile; pimple-cover; pill-box; plug-hat; pot; shako; shovel; sleepless hat; sou'wester; stove-pipe; straw; thatch; tile; topper; truck; upper-crust; wash-pot; wee-jee; wide-awake.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Un accordéon* (popular: an opera hat); *une ardoise* (= a tile); *une bâche* (thieves': also an awning); *une biscope* or *viscope* (vulgar); *un blockaus* (vulgar: a shako); *un bloumard* or *une bloume* (popular); *une boîte à cornes* (a horn case; *i.e.*, a cover for a cuckold); *un Bolívar* (from the hero of 1820); *un boisseau* (also = a bushel); *un bosselard* (school-boys': from *bosselé* = bruised or dented); *un cabas* (popular: = old hat; also basket or bag); *un cadratin* (printers' = a stove-pipe); *un caloquet* (thieves'); *campriau*, *camprieux*, or *campriot* (popular); *un capet* (from old French, *capet*); *une capsule* (popular = a percussion cap); *un carbeluche galicé* (a silk hat); *une casque* (= helmet); *un chapska* (= a shako); *une cheminée* (popular: = chimney-pot); *une corniche* (popular: = a cornice); *un couvercle* (popular: = pot-lid); *une covvrante*; *un covvre - amour* (military); *un*

*cylindre* (= a stove-pipe); *un Des-foux* (from the maker's name); *un épicephale* (students': from the Greek); *un gadin* (an old hat); *un galure* or *galurin* (popular); *un Garibaldi*; *un Gibus* (from the inventor's name); *un lampion* (thieves': = grease-pot); *un loubion* (thieves'); *un marquin* (thieves'); *un monument* (popular); *un nid d'hirondelle*; *un niolle* (thieves': an old hat); *un tromblon* (obsolete = blunderbuss); *un tubard*, tube, or tube à haute pression (= a cylinder); *une tuile* (= a tile); *une tuyau de poêle* (= a stove-pipe).

GERMAN SYNONYMS. — *Bre* (Viennese); *Kowe* (from the Hebrew, *kowwa*).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Bufala*; *baccha* or *biffacha*; *cresta* or *cristiana* (= a cruet); *fungo* (= mushroom).

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Tejado* or *techo* (= tiled roof).

GOLIATH, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. A big man.

2. A man of mark among the PHILISTINES (*q.v.*). [Mr. Swinburne described the late Matthew Arnold as 'David, the son of GOLIATH.']

GOLL, *subs.* (old).—The hand; usually *in. pl.* See BUNCH OF FIVES and DADDLE.

1601. B. JONSON, *Poetaster*, v., Bring the whoreson detracting slaves to the bar, do; make them hold vp their spread GOLLS.

1602. DEKKER, *Satiro-Mastrix*, in wks. (1873), i., 203. Holde up thy hand: I ha seene the day thou didst not scorne to holde vp thy GOLLES.

1611. MIDDLETON, *Roaring Girl*, Act i. This is the GOLL shall do't.



1620. MIDDLETON, *Chaste Maid*, ii., 2. What their GOLLS can clutch.

1634. S. ROWLEY, *Noble Souldier*, Act ii., Sc. 2. *Bal.* Saist thou me so? give me thy GOLL, thou art a noble girl.

1659. MASSINGER, *City Madam*, iv., i. All the gamesters are ambitious to shake the golden GOLLS of worshipful master Luke.

1661. T. MIDDLETON, *Mayor of Quinborough*, v., i. Down with his GOLLS, I charge you.

1672. DRYDEN, *The Assignment*, Act iii., Sc. 1. A simperer at lower end of a table, With mighty GOLLS, rough-grained, and red with starching.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*. GOLL, a hand or fist; give me thy GOLL.

1803. C. K. SHARPE in *Correspondence* (1888), i., 173. Miss Reid with her silk coat and greasie GOLLS.

**GOLLOP**, *verb.* (common). — To swallow greedily; to gulp. For synonyms, *see* WOLF.

**GOLLUMPUS**, *subs.* (old). — A clumsy lout.—GROSE.

**GOLLY!** — A contraction of BY GOLLY! (*q.v.*).

1890. R. L. STEVENSON, *The Wrong Box*, p. 275. GOLLY! what a paper!

**GOLOPTIUS** (or **GOLOPSHUS**), *adj.* (common).—Splendid; fine; delicious; luscious.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 7 Dec. It would better scoop the situation if it were described as GOLOPTIOUS.

**GOLOSHES**, *subs.* (colloquial).—India rubber overshoes. But *see* GROSE.

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GOLOSHES, *i.e.* Goliah's shoes. Large leathern clogs, worn by invalids over their ordinary shoes.

**GOMBEEN-MAN**, *subs.* (Irish).—A usurer; a money-lender; a sharking middleman. For synonyms, *see* SIXTY-PER-CENT.

**GOMER**, *subs.* (Winchester College). —1. A large pewter dish used in college.

2. (Winchester College). — A new hat. *See* GOLGOTHA.

**GOMMY**, *subs.* (old).—1. A dandy. Fr., *gommeux*. [Anglo-Saxon, *guma*=a man; a person: *gomme*=*gommer*=*gammer*. Cf., GOMUS. Beaumont has GOM=a man.]

2. (colloquial).—*See* quot.

1883. *Weekly Dispatch*, 11 Mar., p. 7, c. 4. There has recently been considerable debate as to the meaning of the term GOMMIE. It is very simple. A GOMMIE is one who calls Mr. Gladstone a G. O. M. [Grand Old Man], and thinks he has made a good joke.

3. (colloquial).—A fool. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CAB-BAGE-HEAD.

**GOMUS**, *subs.* (Irish).—A fool. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CAB-BAGE-HEAD.

**GONDOLA**, *subs.* (American).—1. A railway platform car, sideless or low-sided. Also a flat-bottomed boat.

**GONDOLA OF LONDON**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A hansom cab; a SHOFUL (*q.v.*). [The description is Lord Beaconsfield's.]

**GONE**, *adj.* (colloquial).—1. Ruined; totally undone. Also, *adv.*, an expression of completeness, *e.g.*, GONE BEAVER, CORBIE, COON, GANDER, or GOOSE=a man or an event past praying for: Cf., GO UP and GO DOWN.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, iv., 3. He must know 'tis none of your daughter nor my sister; we are GONE else.

1843-4. HALIBURTON, *Sam Slick in England*, ch. xviii. If a bear comes after you, Sam, you must be up and doin', or it's a GONE GOOSE with you.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 40. From that moment he was GONE BEAVER; he felt queer, he said, all over.

1857. *Notes and Queries*, 2 S. iii., 519. To call a person a GONE CORBIE, is only to say in other words, it's all up with him.

1862. CLOUGH, *Poems*. He had been into the schools; plucked almost; all but a GONE-COON.

1863. C. READE, *Hard Cash*, I., 178. I shall meet her again next week; will you come? Any friend of mine is welcome. Wish me joy, old fellow; I'm a GONE COON.

GONE ON, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).

— Enamoured of; infatuated with; MASHED ON (*q.v.*); SWEET ON (*q.v.*). Generally in contempt. Fr., *aimer comme ses petits boyaux*. For synonyms, see SWEET ON.

1887. JOHN STRANGE WINTER, *That Imp*, p. 44. He was a fine fellow, and no mistake. And was GONE ON Lady Lorrimer!

1890. *Illustrated Bits*, 29 Mar. p. 10, c. 3. He must have been terribly GONE ON this woman.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 113. 'Poor chap, he's very far GONE,' thought Jack.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 31. I'll eat my old boots if she isn't dead GONE ON.

GONER, (or GONES, GONUS, or GONEY), *subs.* (American).—1. A fool; a simpleton. Also GAUNEY (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see BUFFLE or CABBAGE-HEAD.

1857. *Punch*, 31 Jan. But the lark's when a GONEY up with us they shut, As ain't up to our lurks, our flash patter, and smut.

1860. HALIBURTON, *Sam Slick*, 'The Season Ticket,' No. X. 'It's only grief, Nabby dear, my heart is broke.' 'Is that all, you GONEY?' says she, 'it's lucky your precious neck ain't broke.'

a. 1871. *The Dartmouth*, vol. iv. One day I heard a Senior call a fellow a GONUS. 'GONUS,' echoed I, 'what does that mean?' Oh, said he, 'you're a Freshman, and

don't understand. A stupid fellow, a dolt, a boot-jack, an ignoramus, is here called a GONUS. All Freshmen, he continued gravely, 'are GONUSES.'

2. (colloquial).—A person past recovery, utterly ruined, or done for in any way.

1876. S. L. CLEMENS (Mark Twain), *Tom Sawyer*, p. 99. 'Yes, but she ain't dead; and, what's more, she's getting better too.' 'All right, you wait and see. She's a GONER, just as dead sure as Muff Potter's a GONER.'

1888. *Cincinnati Enquirer*. Fortunately, she did not see me, or else I should have been a GONER.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 261. 'Make a noise or follow me, and you're a GONER,' said Smirk.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 212. A few more of her meddlings and she's a GONER, that's what she is.

GONG (or GONG-HOUSE), *subs.* (old).—A privy. For synonyms, see MRS. JONES.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*. 'The Parsons Tale' [Riverside Ed. (1880)], ii., 241. These fool women, that mowe be likned to a commune GONG, whereas men purgen hire ordure.

GONG-FARMER (or GONG-MAN), *subs.* (old).—An emptier of cess-pools; a GOLD-FINDER (*q.v.*).

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Curadestri*, a iakes, GOONG, or doong farmer.

GONOF (or GONNOF or GONOPH or GNOF), *subs.* (thieves).—1. A thief; specifically a pick-pocket, and especially an adept. [From the Hebrew. Ancient English; a legacy from the old time Jews. It came into use again with the moderns who employ it commonly. Cf., *gonov* = thief in Ex. xxii, 2 and 6, viz., 'if the *gonov* be found.'] See THIEVES.

1857. DICKENS, *On Duty with Inspector Field*, in 'Reprinted Pieces' p. 256. If the smallest GONOPH about town were crouching at the bottom of a classic bath Inspector Field would nose him.

1849. *Morning Chronicle*, 2 Nov. A burglar would not condescend to sit among pickpockets. My informant has known a housebreaker to say with a sneer, when requested to sit down with the GONOFFS, 'No, no, I may be a thief, but at least I'm a respectable one.'

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. III., p. 325. The GONAFF (a Hebrew word signifying a young thief, probably learnt from the Jew 'fences' in the neighbourhood).

1852. JUDSON, *Myst., etc., of New York*, ch. vii. He next assumed his present profession, and became a GNOF or pickpocket.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 146. Oh, you tief! you cheat! you GONNOF!

1889. *Referee*, 12 May. GONOPHS . . . were frequent in Tattersall's on Friday.

1889. C. T. CLARKSON and J. HALL RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321. Boys who creep into houses . . . Young gunneffs or GONOPHS.

2. (old).—A bumpkin; a churl; a clumsy hand; a shameless simpleton.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*, 3187-8. Whilom there was, dwelling in Oxenforde, A rich GNOF, that gertes helde to borde.

c. 1547. SONG (quoted by Hotten). The country GNOFFES, Hob, Dick, and Hick, With clubbes and clouted shoon, Shall fill up Dussin Dale With slaughtered bodies soone.

*Verb* (old).—To wheedle; to cheat; to steal.

**GONOPHING**, *subs.* (thieves').—Picking pockets.

1857. DICKENS, *The Detective Police*, in 'Reprinted Pieces,' p. 240. From the swell mob, we diverge to the kindred topics of cracksmen, fences . . . designing young people who go out GONOPHING, and other 'schools.'

**GOOBY**, *subs.* (common).—A simpleton; a blockhead. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 19 Mar., p. 90, c. 3. Why, you old GOOBY, Mister Sloper will pay us twice as much for the ducks.

**GOOD !** *subs.* (printers').—An abbreviation of 'Good Night !'

*Adj.* (colloquial).—Responsible; solvent; principally now with 'for'; e.g., He is GOOD for any amount. Also, expert.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, i., 3. Antonio is a GOOD man: my meaning in saying that he is a GOOD man, is to have you understand me that he is sufficient.

1824. REYNOLDS, *Peter Corcoran*, 91. GOOD with both hands and only ten stone four.

**GOOD GOODS**, *in. pl., subs. phr.* (sporting).—Something worth trying for; a success. In the superlative, 'best' GOODS.

1886. *Sporting Times*, 17 July, 1/4. He was a nice young man for a small tea party, And rather GOOD GOODS at a Sunday-school treat.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arroy Ballads', p. 39. There's Warner in 'Drink'; now, that's business, GOOD GOODS and no error:

**BIT (or PIECE) OF GOODS**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A woman. For synonyms, see PETTICOAT.

**GOOD OLD** . . . *adj. phr.* (popular).—A familiar address, derisive or affectionate according to circumstances. See quotes.

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 16 Sept., p. 6, c. 1. It was Mephisto's greeting to Mary Anne—in Marguerite's garden—'GOOD OLD MARY ANNE !' !!!

*Ibid.* The famous medico craned his neck out of the window, and, sniffing in the smoke, cried, GOOD OLD LONDON. This is a true story.

*Ibid.*, 17 Sept. Mr. Chirgwin . . . rouses mirth by . . . exclaiming GOOD OLD SPOT! as he discloses the large white ace of diamonds painted over his right optic.



1892. CHEVALIER 'The Little Nipper.' 'E calls 'is mother 'Sally,' And 'is father 'GOOD OLD pally,' And 'e only stands about so 'igh, that's all!

TO FEEL GOOD, *verb. phr.* (American).—To be jolly; comfortable; 'in form'; to be on perfect terms with oneself.

1887. PROCTOR [in *Knowledge*, 1 Dec., p. 29]. A friend of mine tells me a proposition was once invitingly made to him which, to say the least, involved no virtuous self-abnegation, and he was urged to accept it by the plea that it would make him FEEL GOOD.

1888. *Texas Siftings*, 15 Sept. The saloons are going Saturday afternoon, and the men FEEL pretty GOOD before they come abroad.

TO BE IN ONE'S GOOD BOOKS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be in favour; in good opinion. Conversely, TO BE IN ONE'S BAD BOOKS=To be in disfavour. *See* BOOK.

GOOD AT IT (or AT THE GAME), *adj. phr.* (venery).—An expert bedfellow, male or female.

TO HAVE A GOOD SWIM.—*See* SWIM.

FOR GOOD (or FOR GOOD AND ALL), *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Completely; entirely; finally.

1673. WYCHERLEY, *Gent. Danc. Master*, ii., in wks. (1713), 276. If I went, I would go FOR GOOD AND ALL.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Batchelor*, Act i., Sc. 3. *Sharp*. Faith, e'en give her over FOR GOOD AND ALL: you can have no hopes of getting her for a Mistress.

1875. OUIDA, *Signa*, vol. II., ch. v., p. 66. So the child went up to the hills with Bruno, and stayed there FOR GOOD AND ALL.

GOOD AS WHEAT.—*See* WHEAT.

GOOD AS EVER PISSED, *phr.* (venery).—A qualification of extreme excellence.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills, etc.*, ii., 260. And she is AS GOOD for the game AS 'ER PISSED.

GOOD AS A PLAY.—*See* PLAY.

GOOD AS GOLD, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Very good; usually of children.

AS GOOD AS THEY MAKE 'EM.—*See* MAKE 'EM.

GOOD-BYE, JOHN! *phr.* (American).—It's no go; all's U.P.

GOOD CESS, *subs. phr.* (Irish).—Good luck. (Probably an abbreviation of 'success.') BAD CESS=the reverse.

1845. BUCKSTONE, *Green Bushes*, i., 1. *All*. Bravo, Paddy! GOOD CESS to ye, Paddy! Hurrah!

\* GOODFELLOW (or GOOD BOY, or GOOD MAN), *subs.* (old).—I. A roysterer; a boon companion.

1570. ASCHAM, *Scholemaster*. Sir Roger had been a GOOD FELLOW in his youth.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. GOOD FELLOW, a Pot companion or Friend of the Bottle.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. A word of various imports, according to the place where it is spoken; in the city it means a rich man; at Hockley in the Hole, or St. Giles's, an expert boxer; at a bagnio in Covent Garden, a vigorous fornicator; at an alehouse or tavern, one who loves his pot or bottle: and sometimes, though but rarely, a virtuous man.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xvii. Ratling Reginald Lowestoffe of the Temple—I know him; he is a GOOD BOY.

2. (old).—A thief. *See* THIEVES.

1608. MIDDLETON, *Trick to Catch the Old One*, ii., 1. *Luc*. Welcome, GOOD FELLOW. *Host*. He calls me thief at first sight. [Footnote in 'Mermaid Series' Ed. GOOD FELLOW was then the cant term for a thief.]

1870. *Evening Standard*, 11 Feb. 'Police Report.' Police detective said that he believed the two prisoners were GOOD MEN. In reply to the magistrate he explained that he meant they were old thieves.

**GOOD GIRL** (or **GOOD ONE**), *adj.*  
*phr.* (old).—A wanton.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie. Gaultière*—A whore, punke, drab, queane, gill, flirt, strumpet, cockatrice, mad wench, common hackney, GOOD ONE.

**GOODMAN**, *subs.* (old).—I. A gaoler; a DUBSMAN (*q.v.*).

1721-2. WOODROW, *History*, ii., 636. The GOODMAN of the Tolbooth came to him in his chamber, and told him he might save his life, if he would sign the petition.

2. (colloquial).—The devil.  
For synonyms, see SKIPPER.

**GOODMAN-TURD**, *subs.* (old).—A contemptible fellow; a BAD-EGG (*q.v.*).

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes. Dometa*, an old worde for a shitten fellow, or GOODMAN-TURDE.

**GOOD NIGHT!** *intj. phr.* (general).—A retort to an incredible statement or a delightful piece of news. See CARRY ME OUT!

**GOOD-PEOPLE**, *subs.* (old colloquial).—The fairies.

1828. G. GRIFFIN, *Collegians*, ch. v. An nothin' shows itself now by night, neither spirits nor GOOD PEOPLE.

1848. FORSTER, *Oliver Goldsmith*, bk. I., ch. 1, p. 8 (5th ed.). A small old parsonage house (supposed afterwards to be haunted by the fairies, or GOOD PEOPLE of the district).

1891. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 168. 'Did ever ye hear tell of the story of the Man and the GOOD PEOPLE?'—by which he meant the fairies.

**GOOD** (or **GOOD OLD**) **SORT**, *subs. phr.* (popular).—A man of social and other parts.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 149. Had we not better make a clean breast of it, and trust to his generosity; he seems a GOOD SORT?

**GOOD THING**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—Something worth having or backing; a *bon mot*; GOOD GOODS (*q.v.*). In racing a presumed CERT (*q.v.*).

1844. *Puck*, p. 63. Here's to the GOOD THING whose neatness we prize.

1884. *Saturday Review*, 2 Aug., p. 147, c. 2. The Goodwood Stakes was considered a GOOD THING for Florence, who has proved herself to be an extraordinary mare.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 10 Dec. In a field of four, Livingstone, who was voted a GOOD THING, was served up a warm favourite.

1891. *Daily Telegraph*, 21 Mar. It had been generally anticipated that this was a GOOD THING for Oxford.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 19 Mar., p. 90, c. 3. That them as trades in rags and bones Makes more than them as writes GOOD THINGS.

**GOOD TIME**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A carouse; a friendly gathering; an enjoyable bout at anything.

TO HAVE A GOOD TIME, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be fortunate or lucky; to enjoy oneself; to make merry. See COCUM.

1596. JONSON, *Every Man in His Humour*, i., 2. As not ten housewives pewter, again a GOOD TIME, shews more bright to the world than he! [=some festival, when housewives are careful to set out their furniture to the best advantage.]—Note by Whalley, given in Cunningham's *Gifford's Jonson* (1870).

1863. A. TROLLOPE, *Rachel Ray*, ii., 6., 109. Eating cake and drinking currant wine, but not having, on the whole, what our American friends call a GOOD TIME of it.

1864. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. xxxviii. And what have you been doing? Had a GOOD TIME?

1883. BRET HARTE, *In the Carquinez Woods*, ch. ix. But we must keep it dark until after I marry Nellie, don't you see. Then we'll have a GOOD TIME all round, and I'll stand the drinks.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 14. My idea o' man's chief end was to enrich the world with things of beauty, and have a fairly OOD TIME myself while doing so.

**GOOD 'UN**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—  
1. A man, woman, or thing of decided and undoubted merit.  
*Cf.*, GOOD-GIRL.

1828-45. T. HOOD, *Poems*, vi., p. 254 [ed. 1846]. A GOOD 'UN to look at but bad to go.

1854. MARTIN and AYTOUN, *Bon Gaultier Ballads*. 'The Dirge of a Drinker.' Like a GOOD 'UN as he is.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 160. He's a real GOOD UN, and when his party plank the stuff down it's generally a moral.

2. (colloquial).—An expression of derisive unbelief: *e.g.*, a lie.  
*See* WHOPPER.

**GOOD-WOOLED**, *adj. phr.* (American).—Of unflinching courage; of the greatest merit; thoroughly dependable.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**GOODY**, *subs.* (popular).—1. A matron: the correlative of GOOD-MAN = husband. (Used like AUNTIE, and MOTHER, and GAMMER, in addressing or describing an inferior.) (A corruption of GOOD-WIFE).

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Mona*, . . . Also a nickname for women as we say gammer, GOODIE, goodwife, such a one.

1689. *Acts. of the Churchwardens of Sprouston*. Paid GOODY Crabbin for washing the surplis and church powrch, 1s. 3d.

d. 1732. GAY. Swarm'd on a rotten stick the bees I spy'd Which erst I saw when GOODY Dapon dy'd.

d. 1745. SWIFT. Plain GOODY would no longer down; 'Twas Madam in her program gown.

1802. BLOOMFIELD, *Rural Tales*, 'Richard and Kate.' Come, Goody, stop your humdrum wheel.

1816. JOHNSON. *Eng. Dict.* s.v. A low term of civility used to mean persons.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoltsby Legends*, 'The Witches' Frolic.' Old Goody Price, Had got something nice.

Hence GOODYSHIP = 'ladyship.'

1663. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. 1, c. 3. The more shame for her GOODYSHIP, To give so near a friend the slip.

2. (colloquial).—A religious hypocrite, male or female; the 'unco guid' of Burns.

1836. KIDD, *London Ambulator*, p. 14. Clapham is celebrated for GOODIES—ladies of a certain age, who not having succeeded in finessing for husbands, betake themselves to a religious life as a *dernier resort*.

Hence GOODY-GOODYISM = sentimental piety.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 23 Nov., p. 3, c. 1. The Christmas tale of adventure . . . has perhaps cast off its element of GOODY-GOODYISM, but the general features and cast are as of old.

3. generally *in. pl.* (colloquial).—Sweetmeats; bon-bons; cakes and buns.

1853. MAYHEW, *Letters Left at a Pastrycook's*. Propped up on each side with bags of oranges, cakes, and GOODIES.

1855. H. A. MURRAY, *Lands of the Slave and the Free*, ch. xii. Adjourning from time to time to some café for the purpose of eating ices or sucking GOODIES.

4. (American).—The kernel of a nut.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—Well-meaning but petty; officiously pious. *Also* GOODY-GOODY.

1864. D. W. THOMPSON, *Daydreams of a Schoolmaster*, p. 230. I would rather they were not too good; or GOODY. Let us have a little naughtiness, sprinkled in at intervals.

1892. S. WATSON, *Wops the Waif*, p. 7. He knew well enough the whole of this enterprise had sprung from a GOODY-GOODY idea of 'doing something,' born of impulse and whim.

**GOODYEAR**, *subs.* (old).—The pox. (A corruption of gougeer, from *gouge* = a soldier's trull). For synonyms, *see* LADIES' FEVER.

1605. SHAKESPEARE, *Lear*, v., 3. The GOODYEARS shall devour them.



**GOOK**, *subs.* (American).—A low prostitute. For synonyms, see BARRACK HACK and TART.

**GOOSE**, *subs.* (common).—1. A tailor's smoothing iron. (Whose handle is shaped like the neck of the bird.) Hence the old ditton, 'A taylor be he ever so poor is sure to have a goose at his fire. —GROSE. Fr., *un gendarme*.

1606. SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, ii., 3. Come in, taylor; here you may roast your GOOSE.

1606. DEKKER, *News from Hell*, in Wks. (Grosart) ii., 114. Every man being armed with his sheeres and pressing Iron, which he calls there his GOOSE.

1638. RANDOLPH, *Hey for Honesty*. . . . *Tailor*. Oh! it is an age that, like the Ostrich, makes me feed on my own GOOSE.

1703. WARD, *London Spy*, pt. xii., p. 276. He grew as hot as a Botcher's GOOSE.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GOOSE (s.). . . . also the large, heavy iron used by taylors, to press down their seams with when heated very hot.

1766. KENRICK, *Falstaff's Wedding*, iii., 1. Although they had been hissing all the way like a tailor's GOOSE.

1861. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, Noon, Par. 12. An Irish tailor who has had a slight dispute with his wife the night before, and has corporeally chastised her with a hot GOOSE—a tailor's GOOSE, be it understood—to the extent of all but fracturing her skull.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. ii., p. 89. On the return of the wardens from their own breakfast, the tools—scissors, sleeve-boards, irons, or GEESSE—are served out.

2. (common).—A simpleton: usually only of women. Also GOOSECAP (*q.v.*).

1501. SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, ii., 4. *Mercutio*. Was I there with you for the GOOSE? *Rom.* Thou wast never with me that thou wast not for the GOOSE.

1696. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

3. (venery).—See WINCHESTER GOOSE.

4. (colloquial).—A reprimand; a WIGGING (*q.v.*); *cf.*, *verb*, sense I.

1865. G. F. BERKELEY, *My Life* etc., i., 276. On the adventure reaching the ears of the Duke of Wellington, the active experimentalist received considerable GOOSE.

5. (printers').—See WAYZ GOOSE.

6. (colloquial).—A woman: whence, by implication, the sexual favour.

*Verb.* (common).—1. To hiss; to condemn by hissing. Also TO GET THE GOOSE or THE BIG BIRD (*q.v.*). Among Fr. equivalents are: *appeler* or *siffler* *Azor* (=to whistle a dog, *Azor* being a common canine appellation); *boire une goutte* (=to be goosed); *attrapper*; *reconduire*; *se faire travailler*; *empoigner*; *écreinter*; *polissonner*; *égayer*.

1854. DICKENS, *Hard Times*, ch. vi. He was GOOSED last night, he was GOOSED the night before last, he was GOOSED to-day.

1858. DICKENS *Xmas Stories* (*Going into Soc.*), p. 67 (House. Ed.). Which makes you grind your teeth at him to his face, and which can hardly hold you from GOOSING him audible when he's going through his War-Dance.

1873. *Hornet*, 29 Jan., p. 211, c. 2. *Ferdin.* Fact! My soul is sick on't. GOOSED last night; My salary docked.

1875. T. FROST, *Circus Life*, p. 281. An *artiste* is GOOSED, or GETS THE GOOSE, when the spectators or auditors testify by sibilant sounds disapproval or dissatisfaction.

1886. *Graphic*, 10 Apr., p. 399. To be GOOSED, or, as it is sometimes phrased, 'to get the big bird,' is occasionally a compliment to the actor's power of representing villainy, but more often is disagreeably suggestive of a failure to please.

2. (colloquial).—To ruin; to spoil. See COOK ONE'S GOOSE.

1888. *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, 22 Dec., p. 301. We was pretty nigh GOOSED.

3. (cobblers'). — To mend boots by putting on a new front half-way up, and a new bottom; elsewhere called FOOTING boots. Cf., FOX.

4. (venery). — To go wenching; to WOMANIZE (*q.v.*).

5. (venery). — To possess a woman.

GOOSE WITHOUT GRAVY, *subs. phr.* (nautical). — A severe but bloodless blow. See WIPE.

TO BE SOUND ON THE GOOSE. *verb. phr.* (American). — Before the civil war, to be sound on the pro-slavery question: now, to be generally staunch on party matters; to be politically orthodox.

1857. *Providence Journal*, 18 June. To seek for political flaws is no use, His opponents will find he is SOUND ON THE GOOSE.

1857. GLADSTONE, *Kansas: or Squatter Life*, p. 43. One of the boys, I reckon? ALL RIGHT ON THE GOOSE, eh? No highfaluten airs here, you know.

1862. LOWELL, *Biglow Papers*, II. Northern religion works wal North, but it's ez suft ez spruce, compar'd to our'n for keepin' SOUND, sez she, UPON THE GOOSE.

1875. *American English in Chamb. Journal*, 25 Sept., p. 610. A man who can be depended upon by his party is said to be SOUND ON THE GOOSE.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 22. He didn't appear quite so SOUND ON THE GOOSE as he ought to ha' done.

TO FIND FAULT WITH A FAT GOOSE, *verb. phr.* (old). — To grumble without rhyme or reason. — B. E. (1690).

TO KILL THE GOOSE FOR THE GOLDEN EGGS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To grasp at more than is due; to over-reach oneself. (From the Greek fable.)

EVERYTHING IS LOVELY AND THE GOOSE HANGS HIGH, *phr.* See EVERYTHING.

HE'LL BE A MAN AMONG THE GEESE WHEN THE GANDER IS GONE, *phr.* (old). — Ironical; = 'He'll be a man before his mother.'

GO! SHOE THE GOOSE, *phr.* (old). — A retort, derisive or incredulous = the modern 'To hell and pump thunder.'

UNABLE TO SAY BOH! TO A GOOSE, *phr.* (colloquial). — Said of a bashful person. — GROSE.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 76. And now . . . he can hardly SAY BOH TO A GOOSE.

See also WILD-GOOSE CHASE.

GOOSE - AND - DUCK, *subs. phr.* (rhyming). — A fuck.

GOOSE AND GRIDIRON, *sub. phr.* (political American). — The American eagle, and the United States flag. See GRIDIRON.

1891. *Standard*, 3 Jan., p. 3, c. 1. This is curious, considering the almost fetish-like veneration entertained by the modern American for his Standard, which, coupled with the national bird, tempted the Loyalists in the early days of the war to vent endless rude witticisms on the GOOSE AND GRIDIRON.

GOOSEBERRY, *subs.* (common). — I. A fool. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD. [Perhaps from GOOSEBERRY FOOL; as in GOLDSMITH's *Retaliation*: — 'And by the same rule Magnanimous Goldsmith's a GOOSEBERRY FOOL.']

2. (common). — A chaperon; one who takes third place to save appearances or play propriety (*q.v.*); a DAISY- or GOOSEBERRY-PICKER.

3. (common).—A marvellous tale; a MUNCHAUSEN (*q.v.*); a flim-flam. Also GIGANTIC, and GIANT GOOSEBERRY. Hence GOOSEBERRY SEASON = the dull time of journalism, when the appearance of monstrous vegetables, sea serpents, showers of frogs, and other portents is chronicled in default of news. Cf., SILLY SEASON (*q.v.*).

1870. *Figaro*, 22 June. If we have no big GOOSEBERRIES this season, we have at least a big salmon.

1871. *Graphic*, 22 Apr. Mr. Tupper excited a great deal of incredulity a few years ago by announcing in the prodigious GOOSEBERRY SEASON that he had discovered an ancient Roman coin embedded in the heart of an oak tree.

1885. *Ill. London News*, 18 July, p. 50, c. 2. Amongst journalists there is popularly known what they call 'the GIANT GOOSEBERRY season,' the meaning of which is, that when Parliament has risen and the Law Courts are shut and subjects on which to write become scarce, adventurous spirits are apt to discourse in their newspapers of fruit of abnormal size, and other natural prodigies, which, according to current banter, exist only in their own imagination.

4. *in. pl.* (venery).—The testicles. For synonyms, see CODS.

TO PLAY (or DO) GOOSEBERRY, *verb. phr.* (common).—To play propriety; also to sit third in a hansom.

1877. HAWLEY SMART, *Play or Pay*. ch. vi. To take care of a pretty girl, . . . with a sister to DO GOOSEBERRY.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *Jeph*, p. 3. Mamma always PLAYED GOOSEBERRY on these occasions.

1883. *Globe*, 6 July, p. 1, c. 5. They will be compelled in self-defence to have a shorthand writer present to PLAY GOOSEBERRY, and to be able to furnish proof that their discourse was innocent.

1892. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED, *Ladies' Gallery*, p. 51. Well, I am not a good hand at PLAYING GOOSEBERRY, and I don't like spoiling sport.

TO PLAY OLD GOOSEBERRY, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To play the deuce; to upset or spoil; to throw everything into confusion; but see quot. 1811. OLD GOOSEBERRY = The devil (see SKIPPER). [See Notes and Queries, 2 S x., 307, 376; xii., 336.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. GOOSEBERRY. He PLAYED UP OLD GOOSEBERRY among them; said of a person who, by force or threats, suddenly puts an end to a riot or disturbance.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 22. Will PLAY UP OLD GOOSEBERRY soon with them all.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*. To PLAY UP GOOSEBERRY; children romping about the house or the parent rating them over.

1837. *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Blondie Jacke of Shrewsberrie.' There's a pretty to-do! All the people of Shrewsbury PLAYING OLD GOOSEBERRY With your choice bits of taste and *virtù*.

1865. H. KINGSLEY, *Hillyars and the Burtons*, ch. lxii. LAY ON LIKE OLD GOOSEBERRY.

1892. *Globe*, 12 July, p. 2, c. 2. We all know his capacity for playing OLD GOOSEBERRY with things in general.

GOOSEBERRY - EYED, *adj.* (old).—Grey-eyed. (*Lex. Bal.*, 1811).

GOOSEBERRY-GRINDER, *subs.* (old).—The breech. For synonyms, see MONOCULAR EYEGLASS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GOOSEBERRY-GRINDER, s.v. Ask Bogey the GOOSEBERRY-GRINDER, ask mine a—e.

GOOSEBERRY LAY, *subs. phr.* (thieves').—Stealing linen from a line.

GOOSEBERRY-PICKER, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. A person whose labour profits, and is credited to, another; a GHOST (*q.v.*).



2. (common). — A chaperon.  
See GOOSEBERRY, *subs.* sense 2.

1884. *Cornhill Mag.*, Dec., p. 578.  
The good host experienced the sensations of being GOOSEBERRY-PICKER. He sat under a tree, ate, drank, smoked, and finally fell asleep, whilst the Prince and Otilie explored the Gaulish city and the convent.

GOOSEBERRY - PUDDING, *subs.*  
(rhyming). — A woman. For  
synonyms, see PETTICOAT.

GOOSEBERRY-WIG, *subs.* (old).—A  
large frizzled wig. 'Perhaps,'  
says GROSE (s.v.), 'from a  
supposed likeness to a gooseberry  
bush.'

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

GOOSECAP, *subs.* (common).—A  
booby, male or female; a NOODLE.  
For synonyms, see BUFFLE and  
CABBAGE-HEAD.

1593. G. HARVEY, *Pierce's Super.* in  
wks. II., 72. A foole, an idiot, a dolt, a  
GOOSE-CAPP, an asse, and soe fourth.

1604. DEKKER, *Honest Wh.* in  
wks. (1873), II., 81. Out, you gullies, you  
GOOSE-CAPS, you gudgeon-eaters!

1622. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER,  
*Bejgar's Bush*, iv., 4. Why, what a  
GOOSE-CAP wouldst thou make me!

1763. FOOTE, *Mayor of Garratt*,  
Act i. My husband is such a GOOSE-CAP  
that I can't get no good out of him at  
home or abroad.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. A  
silly fellow or woman.

GOOSE- (or GOOSE'S) EGG, *subs.*  
(American). — No score. Also  
GOOSER. See DUCK.

1886. *New York Times*, July. With  
nine unpalatable GOOSE-EGGS in their con-  
test.

1889. *Modern Society*, 12 Oct., p.  
1264. An enthusiastic lady cricketer has  
just bowled over Mr. Jones in a matri-  
monial match. 'No, Mr. Brown, I cannot  
marry you. You score a GOOSER this  
time.'

GOOSE-FLESH (or GOOSE-SKIN),  
*subs.* (colloquial). — A peculiar  
tingling of the skin produced by  
cold, fear, etc.; the sensa-  
tion described as 'cold water  
down the back'; the CREEPS  
(*q.v.*).

1824. MISS FERRIER, *Inheritance*,  
ch. ii. Her skin began to rise into what is  
vulgarly termed GOOSE-SKIN

GOOSE-GOG (or GOOSE-GOB), *subs.*  
(common).—A gooseberry.

GOOSE - GREASE, *subs. phr.*  
(venery).—A woman's SPENDINGS  
(*q.v.*). See GOOSE, *subs.*, sense 6.

GOOSE-MONTH, *subs.* (old).—The  
lying-in month. Cf., GANDER-  
MONTH.

GOOSE-PERSUADER, *subs.* (com-  
mon).—A tailor. For synonyms,  
see SNIP.

GOOSER, *subs.* (popular).—I. A  
settler; a knock-out blow; the  
act of death. See DIG and  
WIPE.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab.  
and Lond. Poor*, vol. III., p. 133. It  
was he who saved my life. If it hadn't  
been for him it would have been a GOOSER  
with me.

1857. *Morning Chronicle*, 9 Sept.  
In the event of my getting a GOOSER.

2. (sporting).—No score; a  
GOOSE-EGG (*q.v.*).

3. (venery).—The *penis*. For  
synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and  
PRICK.

GOOSE - RIDING. See GANDER-  
PULLING.

GOOSE'S GAZETTE, *subs.* (old).—A  
lying story; a flim-flam tale;  
that is, a piece of reading for a  
GOOSE, sense 2.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannerer*, ch. xxxiv. Lieutenant Brown . . . told him some GOOSE'S GAZETTE about his being taken in a skirmish with the land-sharks.

**GOOSE-SHEARER**, *subs.* (common). — A beggar. For synonyms, *see* CADGER. [From GOOSE = simpleton + SHEARER = a cheater.]

**GOOSE'S-NECK**, *subs.* (venery). — The *penis*. For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**GOOSE-STEP**, *subs.* (common). — Balancing on one foot and moving the other back and forwards without taking a step. [A preliminary in military drill, the *pons asinorum* of the raw recruit.] Also (more loosely) 'marking time': that is, lifting the feet alternately without advancing.

1840. *Tate's Mag.*, Sept., p. 607. Whether the remarkable evolution [the GOOSE STEP] was called . . . from the nature of the operation requiring the exhibitor to stand on one leg, in imitation of the above-named animal, I am totally at a loss to say.

1890. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 7 Nov. He won his spurs at Punchestown before he had mastered the GOOSE STEP.

**GOOSE-TURD GREEN**, *adj.* (old). — A light-yellowish green. — COTGRAVE.

**GOOSEY-GANDER**, *subs.* (common). — A fool. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

**GOOSING-SLUM**, *subs.* (American). — A brothel. [GOOSING = womanizing; also copulating.] For synonyms, *see* NANNY-SHOP.

**GOPHER**, *subs.* (American). — 1. A young thief; especially a boy employed by burglars to enter houses through windows, skylights, etc. [In natural history GOPHER = a burrowing squirrel.]

2. (Southern States). — A rude wooden plough.

**GOREE**, *subs.* (old). — Money; specifically gold or gold-dust. From Fort Goree on the Gold Coast. For synonyms, *see* ACTUAL and GILT.

1696. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**GORGE**, *subs.* (vulgar). — 1. A heavy meal; a TUCK-IN (*q.v.*); a BLOW-OUT (*q.v.*).

1553. WILSON, *Arte de Rhetorique*, p. 112. The counselor heareth causes with lesse pain being emptie, then he shal be able after a ful GORGE.

1883. *Daily News*, March 24, p. 3, c. 4. The keeper tries these brutes once a week to see whether they are ready for a GORGE, and the python has been known to devour eight ducks at one meal, feathers and all, before signifying enough.

2. (theatrical). — A manager; an abbreviation of GORGER (*q.v.*).

*Verb* (vulgar). — To eat voraciously; also to gulp as a fish does when it swallows (or gorges) a bait. For synonyms, *see* WOLF.

1572. *Satirical Poems*, Scottish Text Society, 1889-91, 'Lamentacioun,' ii., 232. GORGED waters ever greater grows.

1633. MASSINGER, *New Way to Pay Old Debts*, iii., 2. *Mar.* Come, have patience If you will dispense a little with your worship, And sit with the waiting women, you'll have dumpling, Woodcock, and butter'd toasts too. *Greedy*. This revives me: I will GORGE there sufficiently.

1654. CHAPMAN, *Revenge for Honour*, Act i., Sc. 1. Here men o' th' shop can GORGE their musty maws With the delicious capon, and fat limbs of mutton.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.), GORGE (v.), to eat over-much, to cram, glut, or fill unreasonably.

1843. DICKENS, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, ch. xxxiv., p. 336. No man had spoken a word; every one had been intent, as usual, on his own private GORGING; and the greater part of the company were decidedly dirty feeders.

1853. WH. MELVILLE, *Digby Grand*, ch. iii. Who might be such a fine race, if they would only not GORGE their food so rapidly.

**GORGER**, *subs.* (vulgar). — I. A voracious eater; a SCRUNCHER (*q.v.*). ROTTEN GORGER = a lad who hangs about Covent Garden eating refuse fruit.

2. (common). — A well-dressed man; a gentleman. [Gypsy, *gorgio* = gentlemen.] Fr., *un gratiné*.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. Mung the GORGER; beg child beg, of the gentleman.

3. (common). — An employer; a principal: especially the manager of a theatre. [Perhaps because he takes (or gorges) all the FAT (*q.v.*)] Also CULLY-GORGER. Fr., *amendier*.

1872. M. E. BRADDON, *Dead Sea Fruit*, ch. xiv. The GORGER's awful coally on his own slumming, eh? . . . I mean to say that our friend the manager is rather sweet upon his own acting.

4. (old). — A neckerchief. [From gorge = throat.]

1320-30. *Cawaine*, 957. That other wyth a GORGER watz gored ouer the swyre.

**GORGONZOLA HALL**, *subs. phr.* (Stock Exchange). — Formerly the New Hall; now the corporation generally. [From the colour of the marble.]

1887. ATKIN, *House Scraps*, GORGONZOLA HALL got turned into New Billingsgate.

**GORM**, *verb.* (American University). — To GORGE (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see WOLF.

I'M GORMED, *phr.* (popular). — A profane oath. See GAUM.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. iii. If it [his generosity] were ever referred to, . . . he struck the table a heavy blow with his right hand (had split it on one such occasion), and swore a dreadful oath that HE WOULD BE GORMED if he didn't cut and run for good, if it was ever mentioned again.

1883. *Punch*, May 19, p. 230, c. 2. Why, of course I hardly expects to be believed, but I'M GORMED if there was more than six of one and half-a-dozen of the other.

1884. JULIAN STURGIS, in *Longman's Mag.*, iii., 623. 'GORMED if there ain't that old parson again!' cried Henry, with enthusiasm.

**GORMAGON**, *subs.* (old). — See quotes.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. A monster with six eyes, three mouths, four arms, eight legs, five on one side and three on the other, three arses, two tases, and a cunt upon its back; a man on horse-back with a woman behind him.

1892. FENNEL, *Stanford Dict.*, s.v., GORMAGON . . . a member of an English Secret Society which existed in the second quarter of 18 c.

**GORMY-RUDDLES**, *subs.* (common). — The intestines.

**GORRAM** (or GORAM). — See By GOLDAM

**GORRY**. — See By GORRY!

**GOSCHENS**, *subs.* (Stock Exchange). — The  $2\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. Government Stock created by Mr. Goschen in 1888.

1889. *Man of the World*, 29 June. The nickname GOSCHENS is going out of fashion. The new  $2\frac{3}{4}$  stock is now called by the old name.

1891. *Punch*, 4 Apr. Securities yielding a larger return than  $2\frac{3}{4}$  GOSCHENS.

**GOSH**, see BY GOSH.

**GOSPEL**, *subs.* (colloquial). — I. Anything offered as absolutely true. Also GOSPEL-TRUTH.



1862. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. ix. She is a good young woman, and a honest young woman in her way, and what she says this night about her brother is GOSPEL-TRUTH.

1864. *Derby Day*, p. 35. Apparently unable to resist the powerful influences brought to bear upon him, he replied, in a tone which carried the impress of veracity with it, 'GOSPEL.'

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 175. It was true as GOSPEL.

To DO GOSPEL, *verb. phr.* (common).—To go to church.

GOSPEL-GAB, *subs.* (common).—In-sincere talk concerning religion; cant.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 146. Yes; when I saw I was in for it, I told them my name and all about my father without any reserve; that, with a little GOSPEL-GAB and howling penitence, got the church people interested in me, and so I was let off easily.

GOSPEL - GRINDER (-POSTILLION, -SHARP, or -SHARK), *subs.* (common).—A clergyman or missionary. For synonyms, see DEVIL-DODGER and SKY-PILOT;—

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *La forêt noire* (thieves' = the black forest); *une entonne ramparte* (thieves'); *entonner* = to intone); *une antifle* (thieves'); *une cavée* (thieves' = a black hole); *une chique* (thieves').

SPANISH SYNONYM.—*Salud*.

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Balza*; *balzana*.

1869. S. L. CLEMENS, *Innocents at Home*, p. 19. 'A what!' 'GOSPEL-SHARP—parson.' 'Oh! why did you not say so before? I am a clergyman—a parson.'

1877. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, ch. viii. Else we should be as stagnant as a Connecticut GOSPEL-GRINDER in his village location.

GOSPELLER, *subs.* (colloquial).—An Evangelist preacher; in contempt. Also HOT-GOSPELLER = a preaching fanatic.)

GOSPEL-MILL (or -SHOP), *subs.* (common).—A church or chapel. Also SCHISM-SHOP and DOXO-LOGY-WORKS (*q.v.*).

1782. GEO. PARKER, *Humorous Sketches*, p. 88. From Whitfield and Rome to Pope John range; Each GOSPEL-SHOP ringing a daily change.

1791. *Life of J. Lackington*, Letter xix. As soon as I had procured a lodging and work my next enquiry was for Mr. Wesley's GOSPEL-SHOPS.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries of New York*, pt. II., ch. ii., p. 13. On about that ere GOSPEL-SHOP as you was agoin for to crack last week.

1869. S. L. CLEMENS (Mark Twain) *Innocents at Home*, p. 17, 18. Are you the duck that runs the GOSPEL-MILL next door.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 35. It's all GOSPEL-SHOP gruel.

GOSS (or GOSSAMER), *subs.* (common).—A hat. (At first a make of peculiar lightness called a FOUR-AND-NINE (*q.v.*)). In quot. 1836 = a white hat. For synonyms, see GOLGOTHA.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xii. 'That's one thing, and every hole lets in some air, that's another — ventilation GOSSAMER I calls it.' On the delivery of this sentiment, Mr. Weller smiled agreeably upon the assembled Pickwickians.

1838. JAS. GRANT, *Sketches in London*, ch. ix., p. 294. Another passenger inquired whether the hat was 'a vashing beaver von?' while a fourth inquired whether it was 'a GOSSAMER ventilator?'

1851. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. II., p. 49. I have sold hats from 6d. to 3s. 6d., but very seldom 3s. 6d. The 3s. 6d. ones would wear out two new GOSSAMERS, I know.

1884. A. LANG, *Much Darker Days*, p. 25. Yes, the white hat, lying there all battered and crushed on the white snow, must be the hat of Sir Runan! . . . who else would wear the gay GOSSAMER of July in stormy December?

1888. *Harper's Magazine*, LXXVII., 139. Flinging off his GOSSAMER and hanging it up to drip into the pan of the hat rack.

TO GIVE (OR GET) GOSS, *verb. phr.* (American).—To requite an injury; to kill; to go strong; to get an opportunity; to PUT IN BIG LICKS (*q.v.*). Sometimes ejaculatory, as 'Give me goss and let me rip!'

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 75. GIN HIM GOSS without sweetin.

1847. DARLEY, *Drama in Porterville*, p. 114. Divers hints passed from one to another among the more excitable citizens, that 'Old Sol' was going to GET GOSS, sure.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 115. Shouts of 'Fair play, 'Turn 'em out,' 'GIVE HIM GOSS,' were heard on all sides.

a. 1852. *Traits of American Humour*, II., 261. Ef I don't, the old man will GIVE ME GOSS when I go back.

GOSSOON, *subs.* (colloquial Irish).—A boy. [A corruption of Fr., *garçon* = a boy.]

GOTCH-GUTTED, *adj.* (old).—Pot-bellied; 'a gotch in Norfolk, signifying a pitcher or large round jug.'—GROSE.

GOT 'EM BAD, *phr.* (common).—A superlative of earnestness or excessiveness: *e.g.*, anyone doing his work thoroughly, a horse straining every nerve, a very sick person, especially a patient in the HORRORS (*q.v.*), is said to have GOT 'EM BAD.

GOT 'EM ON (OR ALL ON), *phr.* (common).—Dressed in the height of fashion. See RIGGED OUT.

1880. *Punch*, 28 Aug., p. 90.

188(?) *Broadside Ballad*, 'Arry.' Where are you going on Sunday, 'Arry, now you've GOT 'EM ON?

188(?) *Broadside Ballad*. 'He's GOT 'EM ON.'

GOth, *subs.* (common).—A frumpish or uncultured person; one behind the times or ignorant of the ways of society.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 367. But I shall never sink this paper so far as to engage with GOths and Vandals.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. lxi. You yourself are a GOth . . . to treat with such disrespect a production which . . . will, when finished, be a masterpiece of its kind.

1865. OUIDA, *Strathmore*, ch. ii. For God's sake don't suppose me such a GOth that I should fall in love with a dairymaid, Strath!

GOthAM, *subs.* (common).—New York City. GOthAMITE, a New Yorker. [First used by Washington Irving in *Salmagundi* (1807).]

1852. JUTSON, *Mysteries of New York*, ch. xiii. One of the vilest of all hells in GOthAM.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 37. The first thing, as a general rule, that a young GOthAMITE does is to get a horse.

GOthIC, *adj.* (old).—See GOth.

1700. CONGREVE, *The Way of the World*, iv. 4. Ah, rustic, ruder than GOthIC!

1773. GOLDSMITH, *She Stoops to Conquer*, ii., 8. Why, with his usual GOthIC vivacity, he said I only wanted him to throw off his wig to convert it into a *tête* for my own wearing.

GO - TO - MEETING BAGS (OR CLOTHES, DRESS, etc.), *subs. phr.* (common).—Best clothes. [As worn on Sundays, or holiday occasions.]

1837-40. HALIBURTON, *The Clock-maker*, p. 243 (Ed. 1862). If he hadn't his GO-TO-MEETIN' DRESS and looks on this day to the jury, it's a pity.

1854. BRADLEY, *Verdant Green*, Pt. II., p. 5. Besides his black GO-TO-MEETING BAGS please to observe the peculiarity, etc.

1856. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School-days*, pt II., ch. v. I want to give you a true picture of what every-day school life was in my time, and not a kid-glove and GO-TO-MEETING-COAT picture.

1857. KINGSLEY, *Two Years Ago*. Looks right well in her GO-TO-MEETING CLOTHES.

**GOUGE**, *subs.* (American). — An imposture; a swindle; a method of cheating.

1845. *New York Tribune*, 10 Dec. R— and H— will probably receive from Mr. Polk's administration \$100,000 more than respectable printers would have done the work for. There is a clean, plain GOUGE of this sum out of the people's strong box.

*Verb.* (old).—I. GROSE says, 'To squeeze out a man's eye with the thumb, a cruel practice used by the Bostonians in America.'

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 49. His eyes having been GOUGED in a mountain fray.

2. (American).—To defraud.

1845. *New York Tribune*, 26 Nov. Very well, gentlemen! GOUGE Mr. Crosby out of the seat, if you think it wholesome to do it.

1874. W. D. HOWELLS, *Foregone Conclusions*, ch. iii. The man's a perfect Jew—or a perfect Christian, one ought to say in Venice; we true believers do GOUGE so much more infamously here.

1885. BRET HARTE, *A Ship of '49*, ch. i. He's regularly GOUGED me in that 'ere horsehair spekilation.

**GOUGER**, *subs.* (American). — A cheat; a swindler. For synonyms, see ROOK.

**GOUGING**, *subs.* (American). — Cheating.

**GOUGEERS**. See GOODYEAR.

**GOULD**, *subs.* (old). — False dice with a cavity within, which in FULLAMS (*q.v.*) was filled with lead to give a bias. See also HIGH-MEN and LOW-MEN.

1544. ASCHAM, *Toxophylus*. What false dyse use they? as dyse stopped with quicksilver and heares, dyse of vauntage, flattes, GOURDS, to chop and change when they liste.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, i., 3. Let vultures gripe thy guts! for GOULD and fullam holds, And high and low beguiles the rich and poor.

1616. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Scornful Lady*, iv. And thy dry bones can reach at nothing now But GOULDS or nine-pins; pray go fetch a trencher, go.

**GOUROCK HAM**, *subs.* (common).—A salt herring (Gourock was formerly a great fishing village). For synonyms, see GLASGOW MAGISTRATE.

**GOVERNMENT - MAN**, *subs.* (old Australian).—A convict.

1864. SMYTHE, *Ten Months in Fiji Islands*. *q.v.*

1883. *Graphic*, 17 Mar., p. 262, c. 3. They never settle down as thousands of our GOVERNMENT MEN cheerfully did in Australia after they had their freedom.

**GOVERNMENT - SECURITIES**, *subs.* (common).—Handcuffs; fetters generally. For synonyms, see DARBIES.

**GOVERNMENT - SIGNPOST**, *subs.* (old).—The gallows. For synonyms, see NUBBING-CHEAT.

1887. A. BARRÈRE, *Argot and Slang*, p. 272. *Montagne du géant*. Fr. (obsolete), gallows, scrag, nobbing cheat, or GOVERNMENT SIGNPOST.

**GOVERNOR** (or GUV), *subs.* (common).—I. A father. Also RELIEVING OFFICER; OLD 'UN; PATER; NIBSO; and HIS NIBS. Applied to elderly people in general. Fr., *le géniteur* and *l'ancien* (= the old 'un).

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xx. p. 169. 'You're quite certain it was them, GOVERNOR?' inquired Mr. Weller, junior. 'Quite, Sammy, quite,' replied his father.



1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 28. But—mind! don't tell the GOVERNOR!

1852. *Comic Almanack*, p. 19. Your father: Speaking to him, say 'GUVNOR,' or 'Old Strike-a-light;' of him, 'The old un.'

1859. *Witty Political Portraits*, p. 111. Unconscious of the constitutional delusions on which his GOVERNOR has thrived.

1889. *Answers*, 20 Apr., p. 323. To call your father 'The GOVERNOR' is, of course, slang, and is as bad as referring to him as 'The Boss,' 'The Old Man,' or 'The Relieving Officer.'

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 9 Jan. It was mortifying to be done in that manner by a low fellow like Muggins, that I had always looked upon as a fool, and had made a butt of when the GUV. was out of the way.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 118. The GOVERNOR is in an awful funk about him.

2. (common). — A mode of address to strangers. Fr., *bourgeois*.

1892. ANSTEV, *Voces Populi* (Second Series). 'At the Guelph Exhibition: Right, GUVNOR; we'll come.'

3. (colloquial). — A master or superior; an employer.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Boss; captain of the waiters; captain; chief; colonel; commander; chief bottle-washer; ganger; head-butler; head-cook and bottle-washer; gorgier; omeë; rum-cull.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Le pantriot* (popular and thieves': also = a young nincompoop); *le*, or *la*, *pâte* (popular: properly paste or dough); *le naïf* (printers': obsolete); *le herz* or *hers* (thieves': obviously from the German); *le loncegué* (thieves': Fr., back-slang; = *gonce*, itself a slang term for a man); *le galeux* (popular) = one with the itch); *le grêle* (popular: specifically a

master-tailor); *le singe* (= monkey); *le troploc*; *le nourrisseur* = the grubber); *l'ogre* (specifically a FENCE); *le notaire* (= publican); *le patron* (colloquial: = governor).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS. — *Chiel-miero* (vulgar).

GOVERNOR'S-STIFF, *subs.* (American). — A pardon.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

GOWER-STREET DIALECT. See MEDICAL GREEK.

GOWK, *subs.* (prison). — A simpleton. (Scots' GOWK = a cuckoo). For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD. Also a countryman. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

1816. SCOTT, *Antiquary*, ch. x. 'Hout awa', ye auld gowk,' said Jenny Rintout.

TO HUNT THE GOWK, *verb. phr.* (common). — To go on a fool's errand.

GOWLER, *subs.* (old). — A dog; specifically a howler.

GOWN, *subs.* (Winchester College). — 1. Coarse brown paper. (obsolete).

2. (University). — The schools as distinguished from the TOWN (*q.v.*), e.g., TOWN and GOWN.

1847. THACKERAY, *Punch's Prize Novelists*, 'Codlingsby', p. 232. From the Addenbrooke's hospital to the Blenheim turnpike, all Cambridge was in an uproar—the College gates closed—the shops barricaded—the shop-boys away in support of their brother townsmen—the battle raged, and the GOWN had the worst of the fight.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verdant Green*, II., ch. iii. When GOWN was absent, TOWN was miserable.

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 30 May, p. 4, c. 3. TOWN and GOWN joined in harmony.

**GOWNSMAN** (also **GOWN**), *subs.* (university).—A student.

1800. C. K. SHARPE, in *Correspondence* (1888), i., 96. A battle between the GOWNSMEN and townspeople . . . in spite of the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors.

1850. F. E. SMEDLEY, *Frank Fairleigh*, ch. xxv. The ancient town of Cambridge, no longer animated by the countless throngs of GOWNSMEN, frowned in its unaccustomed solitude.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*. The townsmen . . . were met by the GOWNSMEN with settled steady pluck.

**GRAB**, *subs.* (vulgar).—I. A sudden clutch.

1835. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 1st S., ch. viii. He makes a GRAB at me, and I shuts the door right to on his wrist.

2. (American).—A robbery; a STEAL (*q.v.*). Cf., GRAB-GAINS.

3. (old).—A body-stealer; a resurrectionist.

1830. S. WARREN, *Diary of a Late Physician*, ch. xvi. Sir —'s dressers and myself, with an experienced GRAB—that is to say, a professional resurrectionist—were to set off from the Borough.

4. (gamesters').—A boisterous game at cards.

*Verb* (vulgar).—I. To PINCH (*q.v.*); to seize; to apprehend; to snatch or steal. GRABBED = arrested.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. The pigs GRABBED the kiddy for a crack.

1818. MAGINN, *Vidocq's Song*. Tramp it, tramp it, my jolly blowen, Or be GRABBED by the beaks we may.

1837. LYTTON, *Ernest Maltravers*, Wk. I., ch. x. There, man, GRAB the money, it's on the table.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. xiii. Do you want to be GRABBED, stupid?

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], p. 39. Don't muddle your brains with any more of that Pharaoh. You'll need all your strength to GRAB him.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., 396. I was GRABBED for an attempt on a gentleman's pocket.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iii., p. 236. I watched a movement, till one of the servant girls had brought another load of grub out, and as she turned her back and went into the house I GRABBED the key, and so they couldn't lock it now.

1886. BARING GOULD, *Golden Feather*, p. 23 (S.P.C.K.). There are some folks . . . so grasping that if they touch a farthing will GRAB a pound.

2. (thieves').—To hold on; to get along; to live.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., 149. I do manage to GRAB on somehow.

**GRAB-ALL**, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. An avaricious person; a GREEDY-GUTS (*q.v.*).

1872. *Sunday Times*, 18 Aug. This gentleman, it is well known, has worked with indomitable energy on behalf of the millions, and has succeeded in wresting from the mean and contemptible GRAB-ALLS of that government which professes to study the people's interest those portions of the Embankment which the public money has paid for.

2. (colloquial).—A bag to carry odds and ends, parcels, books, and so forth.

**GRABBER**, *subs.* (common).—*In pl.*, the hands. For synonyms, see DADDLE and MAULEY.

**GRABBLE**, *verb.* (old).—I. To seize; a frequent form of GRAB (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. To GRABBLE the bit; to seize any one's money.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*. You GRABBLE the goose-cap and I'll frisk his pokes.

2. (venery).—To grope; to fumble; TO FAM (*q.v.*).

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., 193. When Nelly, though he teized her, And GRABBLED her and squeezed her.

**GRABBY**, *subs.* (military). — An infantry-man. [Used in contempt by the mounted arm.] Fr., *mari-onnette*.

1868. WHYTE MELVILLE, *White Rose*, ch. x. 'Is it a good regiment? How jolly to dine at mess every day!' 'I shouldn't like to be a GRABBY though' (this from the Dandy); 'and after all, I'd rather be a private in the cavalry than an officer in the regiment of *feet*!'

**GRAB-GAINS**, *subs.* (thieves'). — The trick of snatching a purse, etc., and making off.

**GRAB-GAME** (or **COUP**, or **RACKET**), *subs.* (old). — A mode of swindling: the sharpers start by betting among themselves; then the by-standers are induced to join; then stakes are deposited; lastly, there is a row, when one of the gang GRABS the stakes, and decamps. But *see* quot., 1823.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. GRAB-COUP, modern practice of gambling, adopted by the losers, thus the person cheated, or done, takes his opportunity, makes a dash at the depository of money, or such as may be down for the play, and GRABS as much as possible, pockets the proceeds, and fights his way out of the house.

18(?) *Scenes in the Rocky Mountains*, p. 282. 'I'll bear you company. What d'ye say to that?' 'Just as you like,' responded his two companions, 'that is provided you won't attempt the GRAB GAME on us.'

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 219. 'Now, boss!' he cried, not unkindly, 'is this to be run shipshape; or is it a Dutch GRAB-RACKET?'

**GRACE-CARD**, *subs.* (Irish). — The Six of Hearts. [For origin *see* N. and Q., 5th Series, iv., 137].

**GRACEMANS**, *subs.* (old). — Grace-church Street Market.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (W. Club's Rept., 1874). GRACEMANS, Gracious Streete market.

**GRADUATE**, *subs.* (turf). — 1. A horse that has been run.

2. (colloquial). — An adept; an ARTFUL MEMBER (*q.v.*).

3. (venery). — An unmarried woman who has taken her degree in carnal lore.

*Verb.* (colloquial). — To seek and acquire experience: in life, love, society, or trade; and so on.

**GRADUS**, *subs.* (gamesters'). — A mode of cheating: a particular card is so placed by the shuffler that when he hands the pack to be cut, it projects a little beyond the rest; the chance being that it is the turn-up. Also THE STEP (*q.v.*). [From the Latin.]

**GRADUS - AD - PARNASSUM**, *subs.* (old literary). — The treadmill. For synonyms, *see* WHEEL-OF-LIFE.

**GRAFT**, *subs.* (common). — Work; employment; LAY (*q.v.*): *e.g.* What GRAFT are you on now? GREAT - GRAFT = profitable labour; GOOD BIZ (*q.v.*). Also GRAFTING and ELBOW-GREASE.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Le bas-timage* (thieves'); *le goupinage* (thieves'); *la laine* (tailors'); *le maquillage* (thieves'); *le massage* (popular); *la masse*; *le mèche* (printers').

1878. *Graphic*, 6 July, p. 2. According to the well-known maxim in the building trade, 'Scotch masons, Welsh black-smiths, English bricklayers, Irish labourers' . . . Perhaps in a generation or two Paddy will fail us. He will have become too refined for hard GRAFTING.

1887. HENLEY, *Villon's Straight Tip*. The merry little dibbs you bag At my GRAFT, no matter what.



1892. *Tit Bits*, 19 Mar., p. 417, c. 1. Millbank for thick shins and GRAFT at the pump.

*Verb* (common).—1. To work. Fr., *bausser*; *membre*.

2. (American).—To steal.

3. (old).—To cuckold; to plant horns.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

4. (American).—To sole old boots. Cf., GOOSE and TRANS-LATE.

**GRAMPUS**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A fat man. For synonyms, see FORTY-GUTS.

TO BLOW THE GRAMPUS. (nautical).—To drench; and (common), to sport in the water.

**GRAND**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Short for 'grand piano.'

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 28 Mar. A precocious young relative is now about to take the dais. There she stands, violin in hand, and there begins the preliminary scramble on the hired GRAND.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—A general superlative.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 19. Wot we want in a pichter is flavour and 'fetch,' and yours give it me GRAND.

TO DO THE GRAND, *verb. phr.* (common).—To put on airs. For synonyms, see LARDY-DAH.

**GRAND BOUNCE**. See BOUNCE.

**GRANDMOTHER**. TO SEE ONE'S GRANDMOTHER, *verb. phr.* (common).—To have a nightmare.

TO SEE (OR HAVE) ONE'S GRANDMOTHER (OR LITTLE FRIEND, OR AUNTIE) WITH ONE. *verb. phr.* (common).—To have the menstrual discharge. See FLAG.

TO SHOOT ONE'S GRAND-MOTHER, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be mistaken; to have found a mare's nest; to be disappointed. Commonly 'You've shot your grannie.'

TO TEACH ONE'S GRAND-MOTHER (OR GRANNIE) HOW TO SUCK EGGS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To instruct an expert in his own particular line of business; to talk old to one's seniors.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1892. *Globe*, 27 Jan., p. 1, c. 5. Evidently he did not consider, as Englishmen seem to do, that GRANDMOTHERS possess no more knowledge than is required to efficiently SUCK EGGS.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 210. 'Confound you stupid, what do you take me for, that you try to TEACH YOUR GRANDMOTHER TO SUCK EGGS.'

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 77. She's a TEACHING 'ER GRAND-MOTHER, she is, although she's a littery swell.

MY GRANDMOTHER'S REVIEW. *subs. phr.* (obsolete).—The *British Review*. [The nickname was Lord Byron's.]

**GRAND-STRUT**, *subs.* (old).—The Broad Walk in Hyde Park.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, i., 4. We'll start first to the show shop of the metropolis, Hyde Park! promenade it down the GRAND STRUT.

**GRANGER**, *subs.* (American political).—1. A member of the Farmers' Alliance; a secret society, nominally non-political, but really taking a hand in politics when occasion offered to favour agricultural interests. [During the decade of years ending 1870, it attained to great numerical strength, and extended throughout the United States.] See AGRICULTURAL WHEEL.

2. (American). — Hence, a farmer; a countryman; anyone from the rural districts. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

**GRANGERISE**, *verb.* (literary). — To fill out a book with portraits, landscapes, title-pages, and illustrations generally, not done for it.

1883. SALA, *Living Wonders*, p. 497. Mr. Ashton's *Social Life in the Reign of Queen Anne* . . . would be a capital book to GRANGERIZE.

**GRANGERISM**, *subs.* (literary). — The practice of illustrating a book with engravings, etc., from other sources. [From the practice of illustrating GRANGER'S *Bibliographical History of England*.]

1883. *Saturday Review*, Jan. 27, p. 123, c. 2. GRANGERISM, as the innocent may need to be told, is the pernicious vice of cutting plates and title-pages out of many books to illustrate one book.

**GRANGERITE**, *subs.* (literary). — A practitioner in GRANGERISM (*q.v.*).

1890. 'Grangerising,' in *Cornhill Mag.*, Feb., p. 139. Another favourite subject, and suitable also for the GRANGERITE, is 'Boswell's Johnson.' It must be admitted that this delightful book may gain a fresh chance by being thus treated, but 'within the limits of becoming grangerism.'

**GRANNAM**, *subs.* (old). Corn. [From the Latin.] — Fr., *le grenu*, or *grehu*. It., *re di granata*; *staffile*; *corniole* : Sp., *grito*.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. GRANNAM, *corn.*

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). GRANNER, *corn.*

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, pt. I., ch. v., p. 49 (1874). GRANNAM, *corn.*

1706. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* GRANNAM, *c. corn.*

1737. *Bacchus and Venns*. 'The Strawling Mort.' GRANNAM ever filled my sack.

**GRANNAM'S-GOLD**, *subs.* (old). — Wealth inherited. [Grannam = grandmother : cf., BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Lover's Progress*, iv., 1. 'Ghosts never walk till after midnight, if I may believe my grannam.']

**GRANNY**, *subs.* (nautical). — 1. A bad knot with the second tie across; as opposed to a reef knot in which the end and outer part are in line. Also GRANNY'S KNOT or GRANNY'S BEND.

2. (common). — Conceit of superior knowledge.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 404. To take the GRANNY off them as has white hands.

*Verb* (thieves'). — To know; to recognise. Also to swindle.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 461. The shallow got so GRANNIED in London.

*Ibid.*, p. 340. If they GRANNY the manley (perceive the signature) of a brother officer or friend.

**GRANT**. TO GRANT THE FAVOUR, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To confer the sexual embrace; TO SPREAD (*q.v.*).

1720. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi 58. If at last she GRANTS THE FAVOUR, And consents to be undone.

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, iv. 7. I . . . never would GRANT THE FAVOUR to any man till I had drunk a heavy glass with him.

**GRAPE-SHOT**, *adj.* (common). — Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

**GRAPE-VINE**, *subs.* (American). — A hold in wrestling.

**GRAPE-VINE TELEGRAPH**, *subs. phr.* (American). — News mysteriously conveyed. [During the Civil War bogus reports from the front were said to be by THE GRAPE-VINE TELEGRAPH.] Also CLOTHES-LINE TELEGRAPH.

**GRAPPLE**, *subs.* (common).—The hand. Also **GRAPPLER**. For synonyms, *see* **DADDLE** and **MAULEY**.

1852. **HAZEL**, *Yankee Jack*, p. 9. Give us your **GRAPPLER** on that, old fellow.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iii., p. 246. Anything she once put her **GRAPPLES** on she slipped inside.

**GRAPPLE-THE-RAILS**, *subs.* (Irish).

Whiskey. For synonyms, *see* **DRINKS** and **OLD MAN'S MILK**.

1785. **GROSE**, *Vulg. Tongue*. **GRAPPLE-THE-RAILS**, a cant name used in Ireland for whiskey.

**GRAPPLING-IRONS** (or **-HOOKS**), *subs.* (old).—I. Handcuffs. For synonyms, *see* **DARBIES**.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1830 **BUCKSTONE**, *Wreck Ashore*, i.

4. I hope the bailiffs have not laid their **GRAPPLING IRONS** on young Miles.

2. (nautical).—The fingers. For synonyms, *see* **FORK**. Also **GRAPPLERS** and **GRAPPLING-HOOKS**.

**GRASS**, *subs.* (Royal Military Academy).—I. Vegetables. *Cf.*, **BUNNY-GRUB**. *Fr.*, *gargousses de la canonnière*.

2. (American).—Fresh mint.

3. (common).—Short for **SPARROW-GRASS** (*q.v.*) = asparagus.

1851-61. **MAYHEW**, *Lond. Lab and Lond. Poor*, I., 539. He sold **GRASS**, and such things as cost money.

4. (Australian printers').—A temporary hand on a newspaper; hence the proverb, 'A **GRASS** on news waits dead men's shoes.' *Cf.*, **GRASS-HAND** = a raw worker, or green hand.

a. 1889. **FITZGERALD**, *Printers' Proverbs*, quoted in *Slang, Jargon, and Cant*. Why are the **GRASS**, or casual news hands not put on a more comfortable footing?

*Verb* (pugilistic).—To throw (or be thrown); to bring (or be brought) to ground. Hence, to knock down; to defeat; to kill.

1818. **EGAN**, *Boxiana*, ii., 375. He had much the worst of it, and was ultimately **GRASSED**.

1819. **MOORE**, *Tom Crib*, p. 57. The shame that aught but death should see him **GRASSED**.

1846. **DICKENS**, *Dombey*, xlv., 385. The Chicken himself attributed this punishment to his having had the misfortune to get into Chancery early in the proceedings, when he was severely flogged by the Larkey One, and heavily **GRASSED**.

1881. *Daily Telegraph*, 26 Nov. The Doctor had killed twenty out of twenty-five, while his opponent had **GRASSED** seventeen out of the same number.

1883. **W. BESANT**, *All in a Garden Fair*. Intro. It was a sad example of pride before a fall; his foot caught in a tuft of grass, and he was **GRASSED**.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 11 Dec. Just on the completion of the minute **GRASSED** his man with a swinging right-hander.

1891. **J. NEWMAN**, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 119. I saw I was **GRASSED**, so I took his measurement.

1892. **F. ANSTEY**, *Voces Populi*. 'The Riding-Class,' p. 108. Didn't get **GRASSED**, did you?

**TO GIVE GRASS**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To yield.

**TO GO TO GRASS**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—I. To abscond; to disappear. Also to **HUNT GRASS**.

2. (common).—To fall sprawling; to be ruined; to die.

1876. **HINDLEY**, *Cheap Jack*, p. 237. Elias was **SENT TO GRASS** to rise no more off it.

3. (common).—To waste away (as of limbs).

**TO HUNT GRASS**, *verb. phr.* (common).—I. To decamp.

2. (cricket).—To field; to **HUNT LEATHER** (*q.v.*).



3. (American). To fall; to go to ground; hence, to be puzzled or bewildered.

1869. S. L. CLEMENS, *Innocents at Home*, p. 21. You're most too many for me, you know. When you get in with your left I HUNT GRASS every time.

TO CUT ONE'S OWN GRASS.  
*verb. phr.* (thieves').—To earn one's own living.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, c. iii., p. 242. 'CUT HER OWN GRASS! Good gracious! what is that!' I asked. 'Why, purvide her own chump—earn her own living,' the old man replied.

TO BE SENT TO GRASS. *verb. phr.* (University).—To be rusticated; to RECEIVE A TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP (*q.v.*).

1794. *Gent. Mag.*, p. 1085. And was very near *rustication* [at Cambridge] merely for *kicking up a row* after a *beaking party*. 'Soho, Jack!' briskly rejoined another, 'almost presented with a *travelling fellowship*? very nigh being SENT TO GRASS, hey?'

GO TO GRASS! *phr.* (common).  
—Be off! You be hanged! Go to hell!

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 95. A gentleman who was swimming about, upon being refused, declared that he might GO TO GRASS with his old canoe, for he didn't think it would be much of a shower, anyhow.

1865. BACON, *Handbook of America*, p. 363. Go TO GRASS! be off! get out!

TO LET THE GRASS GROW UNDER ONE'S FEET, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To proceed or work leisurely. Fr., *limer*.

TO TAKE NEBUCHADNEZZAR OUT TO GRASS, *subs. phr.* (venery).—To take a man. [NEBUCHADNEZZAR=*penis*.] For synonyms, see GREENS.

GRASS-COMBER, *subs.* (nautical).—A countryman shipped as a sailor.

1886. W. BESANT, *World Went Very Well Then*, ch. xxix. Formerly, Jack would have replied to this sally that, d'ye see, Luke was a GRASS COMBER and

a land swab, but that for himself, there was no tea aboard ship, and a glass of punch or a bowl of flip was worth all the tea ever brought from China.

GRASSER, *subs.* (sporting).—A fall.

GRASSHOPPER, *subs.* (common).—  
1. A waiter at a tea-garden.

2. (rhyming).—A policeman, or COPPER (*q.v.*).

3. (thieves').—A thief. See GUNNER.

1893. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 2 Jan., p. 4., c. 3. Quite a 'school' of youthful GRASSHOPPERS are in possession of one corner of the ice, but on the Westminster side of the park 'pon bridge there is a good sprinkling of old hands.

GRASSING, *subs.* (printers').—Casual work away from the office. See SMOUTING.

GRASSVILLE, *subs.* (old).—The country; cf., DAISYVILLE.

GRASS-WIDOW, *subs.* (old).—1. An unmarried mother; a deserted mistress. See BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. Widow's weeds, a GRASS-WIDOW, one that pretends to have been married, but never was, yet has children.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Widow's weeds; a GRASS-WIDOW; a discarded mistress.

2. (colloquial).—A married woman temporarily separated from her husband.

[The usually accepted derivation that grass=Fr., *grâce* is doubtful. Hall (says J. C. Atkinson, in *Glossary of Cleveland Words*) gives as the definition of this word 'an unmarried woman who has had a child'; in Moor's *Suffolk Words and Phrases*, GRACE-WIDOW, 'a woman who has had a child for her cradle ere she has had a husband for her bed'; and corresponding with this is the N. S. or Low Ger., *gras-wedewe*. Again, Sw. D., *gras-anka*, or *-enka*=GRASS-WIDOW, occurs in the same sense as with us: 'a low, dissolute, unmarried woman living by herself.' The original meaning of the word seems to

have been 'a woman whose husband is away,' either travelling or living apart. The people of Belgium call a woman of this description *haeck-wedewe*, from *haecken*, to feel strong desire. . . . It seems probable, therefore, from the etymology, taken in connection with the Cleveland signification, that our word may rather be from the Scand. source than from the German; only with a translation of the word *enka* into its English equivalent. Dan. D., *græsenka*, is a female whose betrothed lover (fastman) is dead; nearly equivalent to which is German, *strokwiuwe*, literally straw-widow. See N. and Q. 6 S viii., 268, 414; x. 333; 436, 526; xi. 78, 178.]

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Californian widow; widow-bewitched; wife in water colours.

1700. CONGREVE, *Way of the World*, Act iii. If the worst come to the worst,—I'll TURN MY WIFE TO GRASS —I have already a deed of settlement of the best part of her estate, which I wheedl'd out of her.

1877. *Chamb. Journal*, 12 Mar., p. 173. Mrs. Brittomart was one of those who never tolerated a bow-wow—a species of animal well known in India—and never went to the hills as a GRASS-WIDOW.

1878. *London*, A GRASS-WIDOW. And so, you see, it comes to pass That she's a WIDOW OUT AT GRASS And happy in her freedom.

1882. *Saturday Review*, 11 Feb. She is a GRASS-WIDOW, her husband is something in some Indian service.

1885. W. BLACK, *White Heather*, ch. xli. Mrs. Lalor, a GRASS-WIDOW who was kind enough to play chaperon to the young people, but whose effective black eyes had a little trick of roving on their own account.

1889. *Daily Telegraph*, 12 Feb. She had taken up her residence at a house in Sinclair-road, Kensington, where she passed as a GRASS-WIDOW. She represented that her husband was engaged in mercantile pursuits.

GRASS-WIDOWER, *subs.* (common).

—A man away from his wife.

1880. *New York Evening Post*, 22 May. All the GRASS-WIDOWERS and unmarried men.

GRAVEL, *verb.* (old).—I. To confound; to puzzle; to FLOOR (*q.v.*).

1593. G. HARVEY, *Pierus Supererog*, in wks. II., 296. The finest intelligencer, or sagest Politician in a state, would undoubtedly have been GRAVELLED in the execution of that rash attempt.

1597. HALL, *Satires*, III., vi., 14. So long he drinks, till the black caravell Stands still fast GRAVELLED on the mud of hell.

1600. SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*. When you were GRAVELLED for lack of matter.

1604. MARLOWE, *Faustus*, Act i., Sc. i. And I, that have with concie syllogisms GRAVELL'D the pastois of the German church.

1659. TORRIANO, *Vocabulario*, s.v.

1667. DRYDEN, *Sir Martin Marrall*, Act iii. Warn. He's GRAVELLED, and I must help him out.

1668. DRYDEN, *An Evening's Love*, Act ii. A difficult question in that art, which almost GRAVELS me.

1857. A. TROLLOPE, *Three Clerks*, ch. xxxiv. He was somewhat GRAVELLED for an answer to Alaric's earnest supplication, and therefore made none till the request was repeated.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapper*, p. 206. I thought Alan would be GRAVELLED at that, for we lacked the means of writing in that desert.

1893. *National Observer*, 11 Feb., p. 321. In truth to talk of Burns as the apotheosis of Knox is really to GRAVEL and confound your readers; and but for the context one might be suspected that the innuendo hid a touch of sarcasm.

2. (American).—To go against the grain.

1887. CLEMENS, *Life on the Mississippi*, ch. xiv., p. 138. By long habit, pilots came to put all their wishes in the form of commands. It GRAVELS me to this day, to put my will in the weak shape of a request, instead of launching it in the crisp language of an order.

GRAVEL-CRUSHER, *subs.* (military).

—A soldier doing defaulter's drill.

GRAVEL-GRINDER, *subs.* (popular).

—A drunkard. For synonyms, *s.v.* LUSHINGTON.

**GRAVEL-RASH**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The lacerations caused by a fall.

TO HAVE THE GRAVEL RASH, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be reeling drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

**GRAVESEND-BUS**, *subs.* (common).—A hearse.

**GRAVESEND - SWEETMEATS**, *subs.* (popular).—Shrimps.

**GRAVESEND-TWINS**, *subs.* (common).—Solid particles of sewage.

**GRAVE-YARD**, *subs.* (common).—1. The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

TO KEEP A PRIVATE GRAVE-YARD, *verb. phr.* (American).—To affect ferocity; to bluster.

**GRAVY**, *subs.* (venery).—The sexual discharge; the SPENDINGS (*q.v.*) both male and female. [Hence GRAVY-GIVER = the *penis* and the female *pudendum*; and GRAVY - MAKER = the female *pudendum*. Hence, too, TO GIVE ONE'S GRAVY = to SPEND (*q.v.*). Cf., BEEF and MUTTON.]

d. 1796. BURNS, 'Dainty Davie,' in *Merry Muses*. I wot he cam atween my thie, An' creeshed it weel wi' GRAVY.

**GRAVY-EYE**, *subs.* (common).—A derisive epithet: *e.g.*, Well Old GRAVY-EYE.

**GRAWLER**, *subs.* (old).—A beggar. For synonyms, see CADGER.

1821. D. HAGGART, *Life*, Glossary p. 62. Not so much as would sweeten a GRAWLER in the whole of them.

**GRAY**, *subs.* (thieves').—1. A coin showing either two heads or two tails; a PONY (*q.v.*).

1828. G. SMEETON, *Doings in London*, p. 40. Breslaw could never have done more upon cards than he could do with a pair of GRAYS (gaffing-coins).

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. II, p. 154. Some, if they *can*, will cheat, by means of a half-penny with a head or a tail on both sides, called a GRAY.

1848. *Temple Bar*, Vol. XXIV., p. 539. They have a penny with two heads or two tails on it, which they call a GREY, and of course they can easily dupe flats from the country. How do they call it a GREY, I wonder? I suppose they have named it after Sir George Grey because he was a two-faced bloke.

2. (common).—See GRAYBACK, sense 1.

3. *in. pl.* (colloquial).—Yawning; listlessness. Cf., BLUES.

**GRAYBACK**, *subs.* (common).—1. A louse. Also SCOTS GREYS. Fr., *un grenadier*. For synonyms, see CHATES.

2. (American).—A Confederate soldier. [Partly from the colour of his uniform, and partly because of its inhabitants. Cf., sense 1.] See BLUE-BELLIES.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 9 Feb., p. 5, c. 4. The Confederate armies, during the great Civil War in America . . . were known . . . as GREYBACKS, whereas their Federal opponents, from the light-azure gaberlines which they wore, were dubbed 'blue-bellies.'

1890. *Scribner's Mag.* Mar., p. 283. Mrs. Rutherford stood in such abject fear of the GRAYBACKS that she regarded the possession of so large a sum as simply inviting destruction.

**GRAY-BEARD**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. An old man. Mostly in contempt.

1593. SHAKESPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, Act II., Sc. I. GREY-BEARD, thy love doth freeze.

a. 1845. LONGFELLOW, *Luck of Eden Hall*. The GRAY-BEARD, with trembling hand obeys.

2. (old).—Originally a stone-ware drinking jug; now a large earthenware jar for holding wine or spirits. [From the bearded face in relief with which they were ornamented.]



1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, GREY-BEARD, s.v. Dutch earthen jugs, used for smuggling gin on the coasts of Essex and Suffolk, are at this time called GREY-BEARDS.

1814. SCOTT, *Waverley*, ch. lxiv. There's plenty of brandy in the GREY-BEARD.

1886. *The State*, 20 May, p. 217. A whisky or brandy which is held in merited respect for very superior potency is entitled [in America] 'reverent,' from the same kind of fancy which led the Scotch to call a whisky jar a GREY-BEARD.

**GRAY-CLOAK**, *subs.* (common).—An alderman above the chair. [Because his proper robe is a cloak furred with grey amis.]

**GRAY-GOOSE**, *subs.* (Scots').—A big field stone on the surface of the ground.

1816. SCOTT, *Black Dwarf*, ch. iv. Biggin a dry-stane dyke, I think, wi' the GREY-GEESSE as they ca' thae great loose stones.

**GRAYHOUND**, *subs.* (general).—1. A fast Atlantic liner; one especially built for speed. Also OCEAN GRAYHOUND.

1887. *Scientific American*, vol. LVI., 2. They [ships] are built in the strongest possible manner, and are so swift of foot, as to have already become formidable rivals to the English GREY HOUND.

2. (Cambridge University).—An obsolete name for a member of Clare College; a CLARIAN.

1889. WHIBLEY, *Cap and Gown*, xxviii. The members of Clare . . . were called GRAYHOUNDS.

**GRAY-MARE**, *subs.* (common).—A wife; specifically one who WEARS THE BREECHES (*q.v.*). [From the proverb, 'The gray mare is the better horse' = the wife is master: a tradition, perhaps, from the time when priests were forbidden to carry arms or ride on a

male horse: *Non enim licuerat pontificem sacrorum vel arma ferre, vel præter quam in equum equitare.*—Beda, *Hist. Eccl.* ii., 13. Fr., *mariage d'épervier* = a hawk's marriage; the female hawk being the larger and stronger bird. Lord Macaulay's explanation (quot. 1849) is the merest guess-work.]

1546. JOHN HAYWOOD, *Proverbs* (Sharman's reprint, 1874). She is (quoth he) bent to force you perforce, To know that the GREY MARE is the better horse.

1550. *A Treatise, Shewing and Declaring the Pryde and Abuse of Women Now a Dayes* (in Hazlitt's *Early Popular Poetry*, iv., 237). What! shall the GRAYE MAYRE be the better horse, And be wanton styll at home?

1605. CAMDEN, *Remains Concerning Britain* [ed. 1870, p. 332]. In list of proverbs. (Is said to be the earliest in English.)

1670. RAY, *Proverbs*, s.v.

1698-1750. WARD, *London Spy*, part II., p. 40. Another as dull as if the GREY MARE was the better Horse; and deny'd him Entenance for keeping late Hours.

1705-1707. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. II., pt. iv., p. 5. There's no resisting Female Force, GREY MARE will prove the better Horse.

1717. PRIOR, *Epilogue to Mrs. Manley's Lucius*. As long as we have eyes, or hands, or breath, We'll look, or write, or talk you all to death. Yield, or she-Pegasus will gain her course, And the GREY MARE will prove the better horse.

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., p. 240. For the GREY MARE has proved the better horse.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Convers.*, dial. 3. I wish she were married; but I doubt the GRAY MARE would prove the better horse.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Rod. Random*, ch. xix. By the hints they dropped, I learned the GRAY MARE was the better horse—that she was a matron of a high spirit.

1819. MACAULAY, *Hist. England*. The vulgar proverb, that the GREY MARE is the better horse, originated, I suspect, in the preference generally given to the GREY MARES of Flanders over the finest coach horses of England.

1883. G. A. S[ALA], in *Illustr. London News*, 14 Apr., p. 359, c. 2. She [Mrs. Romford], did not over-accentuate either her strong-mindedness or her jealousy of her flighty husband; but she let him and the audience unmistakably know that she was in all respects the GREY MARE in the Romford stable.

**GRAY - PARSON** (or **GRAY - COAT PARSON**, *subs.* (old).—A lay impropriator, or lessee of tithes.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GREY PARSON, *s.v.* A farmer who rents the tythes of the rector or vicar.

1830 in CORBETT'S *Rural Rides*, vol. I., p. 123 *note* (ed. 1886). The late editor says, that, having been a large holder of lay tithes, the author applied to Mr. Nicholls, the name of the GREY-COATED PARSON.

**GREASE**, *subs.* (common).—I. A bribe; **PALM-OIL** (or -GREASE). (*q.v.* for synonyms). In America **BOODLE** (*q.v.*). **GREASING** = bribing.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of Turf*, *s.v.* A bonus given to promote the cause of anyone.

2. (printers'). — Well - paid work; **FAT** (*q.v.*).

3. (common. — Fawning; flattery (a figurative use of sense 1).

*Verb* (old).—I. To bribe; to corrupt by presents; to **TIP** (*q.v.*). Also more fully to **GREASE IN THE FIST, HAND, or PALM**. Fr., *coquer la boucanade*. For synonyms, see **SQUARE**.

1557. TUSSEY, *Husbandrie*, ch. 68, pt. 2, p. 159 (E.D.S.). How husbandrie easeth, to huswiferie pleaseth, And manie purse GREASETH With silver and gold.

1578. WHETSTONE, *Promoss and Cassandra*, ii., 3. GREASE them well in their hands.

1592. GREENE, *Quip* in wks., xi., 261 That did you not GREASE THE SEALERS of Leaden Hall thoroughly in the fist, they should never be sealed, but turned away and made forfiet by the statute.

1619. FLETCHER, *Wild Goose Chase*. Am I GREASED once again?

1649. F. QUARLES, *Virgin Widow*, IV., i., p. 40. GREAZE MY FIST with a Tester or two, and ye shall find it in your penny-worths.

1678. C. COTTON, *Scarronides*, Bk. IV., p. 70 (ed. 1725). Him she conjures, intreats, and prays, With all the Cunning that she has, GREASES HIS FIST; nay more, engages Thenceforth to mend his Quarters-wages.

1693. DRYDEN, *Persius*, iii., 139. And after, envy not the store Of the GREAS'D advocate, that grinds the poor.

1698-1700. WARD, *London Spy*, pt. xv., p. 364. But the Gay Curteyan who trades for gold, That can but GREASE A PALM when she's in hold, No Justice need she dread.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, *s.v.*

1787. JAS. PAYN, *By Proxy*, ch. x. His Excellency, your master, has given orders, I presume, that after I have made my compliments—as delicate a phrase as he could think of for GREASING THE HANDS of justice—I shall be at liberty to visit my friend.

1879. HORSLEY, in *Macmillan's Magazine*, Oct. When I went to the fence he bested (cheated) me because I was drunk, and only gave me £8 ros. for the lot. So the next day I went to him and asked him if he was not going to GREASE MY DUKE (put money into my hand).

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 2 Sept., p. 7, c. 2. Did other people having business with the printing bureau tell you that it would be necessary to GREASE Sénécal?

2. (common).—To fawn; to flatter. Formerly, TO GREASE ONE'S BOOTS.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Onger i stivali*, TO GREASE ONES BOOTES, *id est*, to flatter or cog with, to faune vpon one.

3. (old).—To gull; to cheat; to DO.

TO GREASE A FAT SOW IN THE ARSE, *verb. phr.* (old).—To bribe a rich man.—GROSE.

TO GREASE ONE'S GILLS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To make a good or luxurious meal.

**GREASED LIGHTNING**, *subs. phr.* (American).—An express train.

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. 359. The usual Express Train is not half fast enough for the impatient traveller; he must have his *Lightning Express Train*, and in the Far West improves still farther by calling it *GREASED LIGHTNING*, after a favourite Yankee term.

LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, *adv. phr.* (American).—Very quick. See BED-POST.

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 72. Quicker than *GREASED LIGHTNING*, My covies, I was dead.

1890. *Globe*, 27 Aug., p. 2, c. 5. He is drawn along at a rapid rate, or, as the correspondent puts it, he is whisked all over town like *GREASED LIGHTNING*.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scamping Tricks*, p. 98. He measured again, and then off went his coat *LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING*, and we all followed suit.

**GREASER**, *subs.* (American).—1. A Mexican in general; also a Spanish American: see *quots.* 1848 and 1888. The term originated during the Mexican war.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 3. *Note.* The Mexicans are called Spaniards or *GREASERS* (from their greasy appearance) by the Western people.

1855. MARRYAT, *Mountains and Moile Hills*, p. 236. The Americans call the Mexicans *GREASERS*, which is scarcely a complimentary soubriquet; although the term *GREASER CAMP* as applied to a Mexican encampment is truthfully suggestive of filth and squalor.

1876. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*, Prologue i. Behind the leaders followed a little troop of three, consisting of one English servant and two *GREASERS*,

1883. BRET HARTE, *In the Carquin's Woods*, footnote to ch. vii. *GREASERS*, Californian slang for a mixed race of Mexicans and Indians.

1888. *Century Mag.*, October. To avenge the murder of one of their number the cowboys gathered from the country round about, and fairly stormed the *GREASER*—that is, Mexican—village where the murder had been committed, killing four of the inhabitants.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody*, ch. 2. Don't let the *GREASER* git his fingers in your ha'r.

2. *in. pl.* (Royal Military Academy).—Fried potatoes, as distinguished from *BOILERS* = boiled potatoes.

TO GIVE ONE GREASER, *verb. phr.* (Winchester College).—To rub the back of the hand hard with the knuckles.

**GREASE-SPOT**, *subs.* (common).—The imaginary result of a passage at arms, physical or intellectual.

1844. HALIBURTON, *The Attaché*, ch. xvi. If he hadn't a had the clear grit in him, and showed his teeth and claws, they'd a nullified him so you wouldn't see a *GREASE-SPOT* of him no more.

**GREASY-CHIN**, *subs.* (old).—A dinner.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Lay of St. Gengulphus.' And to every guest his card had express'd 'Half past' as the hour for a *GREASY CHIN*.

**GREAT CRY AND LITTLE WOOL.**—See *CRY*.

**GREAT GO** (or **GREATS**), *subs.* (Cambridge University).—The final examination for the B.A. degree; cf., *LITTLE-GO*. At Oxford, *GREATER*.

1841. *Prince of the New-male Baccalere, Oxford*. *GREAT-GO* is passed.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. x. Both small and *GREAT* are sufficiently distant to be altogether ignored, if we are that way inclined.



1856-7. THACKERAY, *King of Brentford's Test.*, st. 7. At college, though not fast, Yet his little-go and GREAT-GO, He creditably pass'd.

1871. *Morning Advertiser*, 28 Apr. Yes, Mr. Lowe has been plucked for his GREAT GO.

1883. *Echo*, 3 May, p. 2, c. 4. But few, indeed, are the men who have been in for GREATS during the last twenty years, and who have not blessed Mr. Kitchin for his edition of the *Novum Organum*.

**GREAT GUN**, *subs. phr.* (common).

—1. A person of distinction; a thing of importance.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Big bug; big dog of the tanyard; big dog with the brass collar; big gun; big head; big one; big (or great) pot; big wig; biggest toad in the puddle; cock of the walk; don; large potato; nob; rumbusticator; stunner; swell; swell-head; topper; top-sawyer.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Un gros bonnet* (familiar = big wig); *un fiérot* (a stuck-up); *un herr* (from the German); *Monsieur Raidillon* or *Monsieur Pointu* (= Mr. STUCK-UP).

1833. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. ii. A Spanish Ecclesiastic, the Canon of—. Plenty of GREAT GUNS, at any rate—a regular park of artillery.

1843. HALIBURTON, *Savi Slick in England*, ch. xv. The GREAT GUNS and big bugs have to take in each other's ladies.

*Ibid.*, p. 24. Pick out the BIG BUGS and see what sort of stuff they're made of.

1853. WH. MELVILLE, *Digby Grand*, ch. x. The GREAT GUNS of the party, the rector of the parish, the member for the county.

2. (pedlers'). — A peculiar practice; a trick of particular usefulness and importance; a favourite WHEEZE (*q.v.*).

1851. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 256. The street-seller's GREAT GUN, as he called it, was to make up packets, as closely resembling as he could accomplish it those which were displayed in the windows of any of the shops.

TO BLOW GREAT GUNS, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To blow a gale; also TO BLOW GREAT GUNS AND SMALL ARMS.

1839. HARRISON AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], 23. 'Curse me, if I don't think all the world means to cross the Thames this fine night!' observed Ben. 'One'd think it rained fares as well as BLOWED GREAT GUNS.'

1854. H. MILLER, *Sch. and Schm.* (1858), 14. It soon began to BLOW GREAT GUNS.

1865. H. KINGSLEY, *Hillyars and Burton*, ch. lxxvii. It was BLOWING PRETTY HIGH GUNS, sou' eastern by east, off shore and when we came to the harbour's mouth there was Tom Wyatt with his pilot just aboard.

1869. ARTHUR SKETCHLEY, *Mrs. Brown on Things in General*. I never did see such weather, A-BLOWIN GREAT GUNS as the sayin' is.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 340. It BLEW GREAT GUNS from the seaward.

**GREAT-HOUSE**. See BIG-HOUSE.

**GREAT-JOSEPH**, *subs.* (old).—An overcoat.

**GREAT SCOTT!** *intj.* (American).—An exclamation of surprise; an apology for an oath. [Possibly a memory of the name of Gen. Winfield Scott, a presidential candidate whose dignity and style were such as to win him the nickname "Fuss-and-Feathers."] Also GREAT CÆSAR.

1883. *New York Mercury*. GREAT SCOTT! you don't say so.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 98. Bob, what's the matter with you? GREAT SCOTT! the mine hain't give out.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 19 June, p. 396, c. 2. GREAT SCOTCH!—no, we mean Scott—well, language worthy of the great Harry prevailed for awhile.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 305. 'GREAT SCOTT! what the deuce is Wells up to?' said the Squire.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 106. GREAT CÆSAR!

1892. *Tit Bits*, 19 Mar., p. 416, c. 1. *He*. GREAT CÆSAR! There you go again! *She*. James will you please remember that it is your wife to whom you are speaking, sir? *He*. No other woman could drive me raving, distracted, crazy, asking silly questions about—*She*. James!

**GREAT SHAKES.** See SHAKES.

**GREAT SMOKE**, *subs.* (thieves')—London.

**GREAT SUN**, *intj.* (common).—An exclamation.

1876. BESANT and RICE, *Golden Butterfly*. GREAT SUN! I think I see it now.

**GREAT-UNWASHED**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The lower classes; the rabble. Also the UNWASHED. [First used by Burke; popularised by Scott.]

1892. SYDNEY WATSON, *Weps the Waif*, ch. iii., p. 4. We begin to understand what is meant by the lowest classes, THE GREAT UNWASHED.

**GREAT WHIPPER-IN**, *subs. phr.* (common). — Death; OLD FLOORER (*q.v.*).

**GRECIAN**, *subs.* (old). — 1. A roysterer; a GREEK (*q.v.*).

2. (Christ's Hospital). — A senior boy.

3. (popular).—An Irishman.

**GRECIAN ACCENT**, *subs.* (popular).—A brogue.

**GRECIAN-BEND**, *subs.* (common).—

A stoop in walking. [Affected by some women c. 1869-80.] Cf., ALEXANDRA LIMP, ROMAN FALL, ITALIAN WRIGGLE, KANGAROO DROOP.

1821. *Etonian*, ii., 57. In person he was of the common size, with something of the GRECIAN BEND, contracted doubtless from sedentary habits.

1869. *Daily Telegraph*, 1 Sept. I do not, however, think the 'stoop' our girls now have arises from tight-lacing. Some affect what is called the GRECIAN BEND.

1870. *Orchestra*, 25 Mar. 'Grand Comic Concert.' The ladies have their GRECIAN BEND, our typical gentleman explains a correspondent masculine affectation which he dubs 'The Roman Fall—The Roman Fall.'

1871. *Morning Advertiser*, 4 Dec. A lady of five feet becomes, say, five feet two inches per heels, five feet six inches per hair, five feet again, per GRECIAN BEND.

1876. *Chambers' Journal*, No. 629. Your own advocacy for the GRECIAN BEND and the Alexandra limp—both positive and practical imitations of physical affliction.

1886. *Cornhill Magazine*, Dec., p. 618. You ain't nearly fine enough for a waitress or for 'im, neether. He likes a smart young woman with a GRECIAN BEND.

**GREED**, *subs.* (thieves). — Money. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

1857. DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**GREEDY-GUT** (or -GUTS), *subs.* (old). — A voracious eater; a glutton. [As in the old (school-boys') rhyme: 'Guy-hi, GREEDY-GUT, Eat all the pudding up.'] For synonyms, see STODGER. Fr., *un glafâtre*.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, *Edace*, an eater, a devourer, a GREEDIGUT. *Ibid.* *Putti occhi*, greedie eies.

1772. COLES, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**GREEK**, *subs.* (old).—1. Slang, or FLASH (*q.v.*); usually ST. GILES' GREEK (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, CANT, GIBBERISH, etc.

2. (colloquial).—A card-sharper; a cheat.

1523. ROY and BARLOW, *Rede me and be not wrothe*, p. 117 [ed. Arber, 1871]. In carde playinge he is a goode GREKE And can skylle of post and glycke, Also a prayre of dyce to trolle.

1568. *Satirical Poems*, 'Scottish Text Soc.' [1839-91] i., 77. A cowl, a cowl, for such a GREEK were fitter far to wea're.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Grecheggare* . . . to play the GREEK.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, v. 6. Come, both you cogging GREEKS; have at you both.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, xxviii. Most of the cant phrases in HEAD'S *English Rogue*, which was published, I believe, in 1666, would be intelligible to a GREEK of the present day.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 5. Come lads, bustle about; play will begin—some of the pigeons are here already, the GREEKS will not be long following.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. IV., ch. i. Jerry was a GREEK by nature, and could land a flat as well as the best of them.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xxxvi. He was an adventurer, a pauper, a blackleg, a regular GREEK.

1861. *Once a Week*, 25 May, p. 97. As the GREEK places the packet [of cards] on the top of the other, he allows it to project the least bit in the world.

1834. *Saturday Review*, 16 Feb., p. 202. Without a confederate the now fashionable game of baccarat does not seem to offer many chances for the GREEK.

3. (old).—An Irishman.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*. GREEK, s.v. Irishmen call themselves GREEKS.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. i., p. 240. We had the GREEKS (the lately arrived Irish) down upon us more than once.

1872. *Standard*, 3 Sept. 'Melbourne Correspondence.' The most noticeable point of comparison between the two Administrations is the presence or the absence of the GREEK element from the Cabinet. GREEK, as some of your readers are aware, is colonial slang for 'Irish.'

4. (thieves').—A gambler. Also a highwayman.

MERRY GREEK, *subs. phr.* (old).—A roysterer; a drunkard. COTGRAVE. [In Latin, *Graecare* = to play the Greek—high-living and hard drinking.]

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, iv., 4. A woful Cressid 'mongst the MERRY GREEKS.

**GREEK FIRE**, *subs. phr.* (thieves').—Bad whiskey; ROTGUT (*q.v.*).

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321, s.v.

**GREEK KALENDS**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—Never. To defer anything to the Greek Kalends is to put it off *sine die*. (The Greeks used no kalends in their reckoning of time.)

c. 1619. DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Consid. Parlt.*, wks. (1711) 185. That gold, plate, and all silver, given to the mint-house in these late troubles, shall be paid at the GREEK KALENDS.

1653. URQUHART, *Rabelais*, bk. I., ch. xx. The judgment or decree shall be given out and pronounced at the next GREEK KALENDS, that is, never.

1823. BYRON, *Don Juan*, c. xiii., st. 45. They and their bills, 'Arcadians both,' are left To the GREEK KALENDS of another session.

1825. SCOTT, *Betrothed*. Intro. Will you speak of your paltry prose doings in my presence, whose great historical poem, in twenty books, with notes in proportion, has been postponed AD GRECAS KALENDAS?

1872. O. W. HOLMES, *Poet Breakf. T.* i., 18. His friends looked for it only on the GREEK KALENDS, say on the 31st of April, when that should come round, if you would modernize the phrase.



1882. *Macmillan's Mag.*, 253. So we go on . . . and the works are sent to the GREEK CALENDERS.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—In the reign of Queen Dick; when the devil is blind; when two Sundays come in a week; at Doomsday; at Tib's Eve; one of these odd-come-shortlys; when my goose pisses; when the ducks have eaten up the dirt; when pigs fly; in a month of Sundays; once in a blue moon.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Mardi s'il fait chaud* (obsolete); *Dimanche après la grande messe* (popular); *quand les poules pissent*; *semaine des quatre jeudis* (popular: when four Thursdays come in a week).

**GREEN**, *subs.* (common). — 1. Rawness; simplicity. Generally, 'Do you see any GREEN in my eye?' = Do you take me for a fool? See *adj.* sense.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, 247. I'm not a tailor, but I understands about clothes, and I believe that no person ever saw anything GREEN in my eye.

1892. *Ally Sloper*, 19 Mar., p. 95, c. 2. Ally Sloper the 'cute, Ally Sloper the sly, Ally Sloper, the cove with no GREEN in his eye.

1892. *Illustrated Bits*, 22 Oct., p. 14, c. 2. Sindin' both ships is it? How wud Oi have a check on ye? Do ye see inn'y GREEN in ME oi?

*Adj.* (colloquial). — Simple; inexperienced; gullible; UNSALTED (*q.v.*).

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, Act i., Sc. 3. Pol. Affection! pooh! you speak like a GREEN girl.

1605. CHAPMAN, *All Fools*, Act iv., p. 67 (*Plays*, 1874). Shall I then say you want experience? Y'are GREEN, y'are credulous; easy to be blinded.

1748. T. DWICHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GREEN (*a*). . . so likewise a young or unexperienced person in arts, sciences, etc., is sometimes said to be GREEN, raw, etc.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*. Tom. No; you're GREEN! Jerry. GREEN! Log. Ah! not fly! Tom. Yes, not awake!

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. viii. 'My eyes, how GREEN!' exclaimed the young gentleman. 'Why a beak's a madgst'rate.'

1841. *Punch*, July 17, p. 6. What a GREEN chap you are, after all. A public man's consistency! It's only a popular delusion.

1850. SMEDLEY, *Frank Fairleigh*, p. 19. Eh! why! what's the matter with you? have I done anything particularly GREEN, as you call it?

1856. T. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School Days*, pt. I., ch. ii. You try to make us think . . . that you are, even as we, of the working classes. But bless your hearts, we ain't so GREEN.

1869. *Literary World*, 31 Dec., p. 129, c. 2. His fellow-passengers laughed at him for being so GREEN.

1879. *Punch's Almanack*, p. 7. Seasonable Slang. For Spring.—You be blowed! For Summer.—I'll warm yer! For Autumn.—Not so blooming GREEN! For Winter.—An ice little game all round.

1887. *Lippincott*, July, p. 104. Within the last day or so a young fellow has arrived who is in danger of being eaten by the cows, so GREEN is he.

1890. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 7 Nov. Being quite GREEN at the time, I rather lost my head over my good fortune.

*Verb* (colloquial).—To hoax; to swindle. At Eton TO GREEN UP. For synonyms, see GAMMON.

1836-41. T. C. BUCKLAND, *Eton*. I was again catechized on many points personal to myself, and some mild attempts were made to GREEN me, as boys call it.

1889. *Answers*, 2 Mar., p. 218, c. 1. Whereupon the old humbug burst into a loud guffaw, as though he were rejoicing at having GREENED the toff.

1892. ANSTEV, *Voces Populi* (Second Ser. ies). 'Bank Holiday,' 147. THE DAMSEL (*giggling*). You go on—you don't GREEN me that w'y.

**GREENS**, *subs.* (old).—1. Chlorosis: *i.e.*, the green sickness.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 313. The maiden takes five, too, that's vexed with her GREENS.

2. *in. pl.* (printers').—Bad or worn out rollers.

TO HAVE, GET, or GIVE ONE'S GREENS, *verb phr.* (venery).—To enjoy, procure, or confer the sexual favour. Said indifferently of both sexes.

Hence, also, ON FOR ONE'S GREENS=amorous and willing; AFTER ONE'S GREENS=in quest of the favour; GREEN-GROVE=the pubes; GREEN-GROCERY=the female *pudendum*; THE PRICE OF GREENS=the cost of an embrace; FRESH GREENS=a new piece (*q.v.*). [Derived by some from the old Scots *grene*=to pine, to long for, to desire with insistence: whence GREENS=longings, desires; which words may in their turn be referred, perhaps, to Mid. Eng., *zernen*, A.S., *gyrnan*, Icelandic, *girna*=to desire, and Gothic, *gairns*=desirous. Mod. Ger., *begehren*=to desire. See DALZIEL, *Darker Superstitions of Scotland*, 1835, p. 106:—'He answered that he wald gif the sum Spynie fleis callit cantarides, quhilk, gif thou suld move the said Elizabeth to drynk of, it wold mak hir out of all question to GRENE eftir the.' *Trial of Peter Hay, of Kirklands, and others, for Witchcraft, 25th May, 1601*. But in truth, the expression is a late and vulgar coinage. It would seem, indeed, to be a reminiscence of GARDEN (*q.v.*), and the set of metaphors—as KAIL, CAULIFLOWER, PARSLEY BED, and so forth (all which *see*)—suggested thereby.]

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—TO BE all there but the most of you; in Abraham's bosom; up one's petticoats (or among one's frills); there; on the spot; into; up; up to one's balls; where uncle's doodle goes; among the cabbages.

TO DANCE the blanket horn-pipe; the buttock jig; the cushion dance (*see* MONOSYLLABLE); the goat's jig; the mattress jig; the married man's cotillion; the matrimonial polka; the reels o' Bogie (Scots'); the reels of Stumpie (Scots'); to the tune of THE SHAKING OF THE SHEETS; with your arse to the ceiling, or the kipples (Scots').

TO GO ballocking; beard-splitting; bed-pressing (Marston); belly-bumping (Urquhart); bitching (Marston); bum-fighting; bum-working; bum-tickling; bum-faking; bush-ranging; buttock-stirring (Urquhart); bird's-nesting; buttocking; cock-fighting; cunny-catching; doodling; drabbing; fleshing it; flesh-mongering; goosing; to Hairy-fordshire; jock-hunting; jottling; jumming (Urquhart); leather-stretching; on the loose; motting; molrowing; pile-driving; prick-scouring; quim-sticking; rumping; rump-splitting; strumming; twatting; twat-faking; vaulting (Marston, etc.); wenching; womanizing; working the dumb (or double, or hairy) oracle. twat-raking; tummy-tickling; tromboning; quim-wedging; tail-twitching; button-hole working; under-petticoating.

TO HAVE, or DO, A BIT OF beef (of women); business

(Shakspeare); bum-dancing; cauli-flower; cock; cock - fighting; cunt; curly greens; fish; on a fork; fun; off the chump end; flat; front - door work; giblet pie; the gut- (or cream- or sugar-) stick (of women); jam; ladies' tailoring; meat; mutton; pork; quimsy; rough; sharp-and-blunt (rhyming slang); stuff; split-mutton; skirt; summer cabbage.

TO HAVE, or DO, or PERFORM, the act of androgynation (Urquhart); a ballocking; a bit; a lassie's by - job (Burns); a bedward bit (Durfey); a beanfeast in bed; a belly - warmer; a blindfold bit; a bottom-wetter (of women); a bout; a brush with the cue; a dive in the dark; a drop-in; a double fight; an ejection in Love-lane; a four-legged frolic; a fuck; a futter; a game in the cock-loft; a goose-and-duck (rhyming); the cul-batizing exercise (Urquhart); a grind; a hoist-in; a jottle; a jumble-giblets; a jumble-up; an inside worry; a leap; a leap up the ladder; a little of one with t'other (Durfey); a mount; a mow (David Lyndsay, Burns, etc.); a nibble; a plaster of warm guts (Grose); a poke; a put; a put-in; a random push (Burns); a rasp; a ride; a roger; a rootle; a rush up the straight; a shot at the bull's eye; a slide up the board; a squirt-and-a squeeze; a touch-off; a touch-up; a tumble-in; a wet-un; a wipe at the place; a wollop-in.

SPECIFIC.—TO HAVE, or DO, A BACK-SCUTTLE, (*q.v.*); a BUTTERED BUN (*q.v.*); a DOG'S MARRIAGE (*q.v.*); a KNEE-TREMBLER, PERPENDICULAR, or

UPRIGHT (*q.v.*); a MATRIMONIAL (*q.v.*); SPOON-FASHION (*q.v.*); a ST. GEORGE (*q.v.*).

TO PLAY AT, All-fours; Adam-and-Eve; belly-to-belly (Urquhart); brangle - buttock (Urquhart); buttock-and-leave-her; cherry-pit (Herrick); couple-your-navels; cuddle-my-cuddie (Durfey); Hey Gammer Cook (C. Johnson); fathers-and-mothers; the first-game-ever-played; Handie-Dandie; Hooper's Hide (*q.v.*); grapple - my - belly (Urquhart); horses-and-mares (schoolboys'); the close-buttock-game (Urquhart); cock-in-cover; houghmagandie (Burns); in-and-in; in-and-out; Irish-whist (where-the-JACK (*q.v.*)-takes-the ACE [see MONOSYLLABLE]); the - loose - coat-game (Urquhart); Molly's - hole (schoolboys'); pickle-me-tickle-me (Urquhart); mumble - peg; prick - the - garter; pully - hauly (Grose); - put-in-all; the-same-old - game; squeeze - close; stable - my - naggie; thread - the - needle; tops - and - bottoms; two - handed - put (Grose); up-tails-all.

GENERAL.—To Adam and Eve it; to blow the groundsels; to engage three to one; to chuck a tread; to do (Jonson); to do it; to do 'the act of darkness' (Shakspeare), the act of love, the deed of kind, the work of increase, 'the divine work of fatherhood' (Whitman); to feed the dumb-glutton; to get one's hair cut; to slip in Daintie Davie (Scots'), or Willie Wallace (*idem*); to get Jack in the orchard; to get on top of; to give a lesson in simple arithmetic (*i.e.*, addition, division, multiplication and subtraction); to give a GREEN GOWN (*q.v.*); to go 'groping for trout in a peculiar



river' (Shakspeare); to go face-making; to go to Durham (North Country); to go to see a sick friend; to have it; to join faces (Durfey); to join giblets; to make ends meet; to make the beast with two backs (Shakspeare and Urquhart); to make a settlement in tail; to play top-sawyer; to put it in and break it; to post a letter; to go on the stitch; to labor lea (Scots); to tether one's nags on (idem); to nail twa wames thegither (idem); to lift a leg on (Burns); to ride a post (Cotton); to peel one's end in; to put the devil into hell (Boccaccio); to rub bacons (Urquhart); to strop one's beak; to strip one's tarse in; to grind one's tool; to grease the wheel; to take on a split-arsed mechanic; to take a turn in Bushey-park, Cock-alley, Cock-lane, Cupid's - alley, Cupid's-corner, Hair-court, 'the lists of love' (Shakspeare), Love-lane, on Mount Pleasant, among the parsley, on Shooter's-hill, through the stubble; to whack it up; to wollop it in; to labour leather; to wind up the clock (Sterne).

OF WOMEN ONLY.—To get an arselins coup (Burns); to catch an oyster; to do the naughty; to do a spread, a tumble, a back-fall, what mother did before me; a turn on one's back, what Eve did with Adam; to hold, or turn up one's tail (Burns and Durfey); to get one's leg lifted, one's kettle mended, one's chimney swept out, one's leather stretched; to lift one's leg; to open up to; to get shot in the tail; to get a shove in one's bl'nd eye; to get a wet bottom; what Harry gave Doll (Durfey); to suck the sugar-stick; to take in beef; to

take Nebuchadnezzar out to grass; to look at the ceiling over a man's shoulder; to get outside it; to play one's ace; to rub one's arse on (Rochester); to spread to; to take in and do for; to give standing room for one; to get hulled between wind and water; to get a pair of balls against one's butt; to take in cream; to show (or give) a bit; to skin the live rabbit; to feed (or trot out) one's PUSSY (*q.v.*); to lose the match and pocket the stakes; to get a bellyful of marrow pudding; to supple both ends of it (Scots); to draw a cork; to get hilt and hair (Burns); to draw a man's fireworks; to wag one's tail (Pope); to take the starch out of; to go star-gazing (or studying astronomy) on one's back; to get a GREEN GOWN (Herrick and Durfey); to have a hot pudding (or live sausage) for supper; to grant the favour; to give mutton for beef, juice for jelly, soft for hard, a bit of snug for a bit of stiff, a hole to hide it in, a cure for the HORN (*q.v.*), a hot poultice for the Irish toothache; to pull up one's petticoats to; to get the best and plenty of it; to lie under; to stand the push; to get stabbed in the thigh; to take off one's stays; to get touched up, a bit of the goose's-neck, a go at the creamstick, a handle for the broom.

CONVENTIONALISMS. — To have connection; to have carnal, improper, or sexual intercourse; to know carnally; to have carnal knowledge of; to indulge in sexual commerce; to go to bed with; to lie with; to go in unto (Biblical); to be intimate.

improperly intimate, familiar, on terms of familiarity with; to have one's will of; to lavish one's favours on; to enjoy the pleasures of love, or the conjugal embrace; to embrace; to have one's way with; to perform connubial rites; to scale the heights of connubial bliss; to yield one's favours (of women); to surrender, or give one the enjoyment of one's person (of women); to use benevolence to; to possess. For other synonyms, *see* RIDE.

TO SEND TO DR. GREEN, *verb. phr.* (old).—To put out to grass.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. My horse is not well, I shall send him to Doctor GREEN.

S'ELP ME GREENS! (or TATURS!) *intj.* (common).—A veiled oath of an obscene origin; *see* GREENS. For synonyms, *see* OATHS.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. iii., p. 144. They'll say, too, S'ELP MY GREENS! and 'Upon my word and say so!'

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 23 Jan. 'Well, s'ELP ME GREENS,' he cried, wiping his eyes and panting for breath, 'if you arn't the greatest treat I ever did meet; you'll be the death o' me, Juggins, you will. Why, you bloomin' idiot, d'ye think if they hadn't been rogues we should have been able to bribe 'em?'

JUST FOR GREENS, *adv. phr.* (American).—*See* quot.

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. 7. I've made up my mind to make a tower of travel to the big North this summer, JEST FOR GREENS, as we say in Georgia, when we hain't got no very pertickeler reason for anything, or hain't got time to tell the real one.

GREEN-APRON, *subs.* (old).—A lay preacher. Also adjectively. For synonyms, *see* DEVIL-DODGER and SKY-PILOT.

1654. WARREN, *Unbelievers*, 145. It more befits a GREEN-APRON preacher, than such a Gamaliel.

1705. HICKERINGILL, *Priestcraft*, I. (1721) 21. Unbeneficed Noncons. (that live by Alms and no Paternoster, no Penny, say the GREEN-APRONS).

1765. TUCKER, *Lt. Nat.*, II., 451. The gifted priestess amongst the Quaker is known by her GREEN APRON.

GREEN-BACK, *subs.* (common).—I A frog.

2. (University).—One of Todhunter's series of mathematical text-books. (Because bound in green cloth. *Cf.* BLUE-ROIN.)

3. (American).—The paper issue of the Treasury of the United States; first sent out in 1862 during the civil war. [From the backs being printed in green.] Hence GREEN-BACKER—an advocate for an unlimited issue of paper money.

1873. *Echo*, 8 May. This was accomplished by the issue of legal tender notes, popularly known as GREENBACKS.

1877. CLEMENS, *Life on the Mississippi*, ch. lvii., p. 499. Anything in the semblance of a town lot, no matter how situated, was saleable, and at a figure which would still have been high if the ground had been sodded with GREENBACKS.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 228. Gussie can near the crinkle of the GREENBACKS as he folds them up.

GREEN BAG, *subs.* (old).—A lawyer. [From the green bag in which robes and briefs were carried. The colour is now blue, or, in cases of presentation from seniors to juniors, red.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Black box; bramble (provincial); devil's own; gentleman of the long robe; land-shark; limb of the law; mouth-piece; PHILADELPHIA LAWYER (*q.v.*); quitam; six-and-eightpence; snipe; sublime rascal.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. *Un bavard* (pop. = a talker or mouth-piece); *un blanchisseur* (= white-washer); *un brodancheur à la plaque, aux macarons, or à la cymbale* (thieves': a notary-public); *un gerbier* (thieves'); *un grippemini* (obsolete: *grippeminaud* = thief); *un inutile* (thieves': a notary-public); *une éponge d'or* (= a sucker-up of gold: in allusion to the long bills); *un macaron huissier* (popular).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Dragon del gran soprano*; *dragonetto* (= a dragon, or SUCK-ALL).

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Remedio* (= a remedy); *la letraderia* (= a body or society of lawyers); *cataribera* (jocular).

**GREEN-BONNET**, TO HAVE (or WEAR) A GREEN BONNET, *verb. phr.* (common).—To fail in business; to go bankrupt. [From the green cloth cap once worn by bankrupts.]

**GREEN CHEESE.** *See* CREAM CHEESE and MOON.

**GREEN CLOTH.** *See* BOARD OF GREEN CLOTH.

**GREEN DRAGOONS**, *subs.* (military).—The fifth Dragoon Guards; also known as the Green Horse. [From their green facings.]

**GREENER**, *subs.* (common).—A new, or raw hand; specifically employed of inexperienced work-

men introduced to fill the place of strikers; DUNG (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, FLINT. For synonyms, *see* SNOOKER.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 14 Oct., p. 6, c. 3. A howling mob of Hebrew men and women . . . in their own Yiddish jargon criticised the new arrivals, or GREENERS, in language that was anything but complimentary.

**GREEN-GOODS**, *subs.* (American).

—1. Counterfeit greenbacks.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 223. In his opinion Stillman Myth, and Co., were in the GREEN GOODS business.

2. (venery).—A prostitute new to the town; a FRESH BIT (*q.v.*).

**GREEN-GOODS MAN** (or OPERATOR), *subs.* (American).—

1. A counterfeiter of spurious greenbacks; a SNIDE-PITCHER (*q.v.*).

1888. *Troy Daily Times*, 3 Feb. Driscoll was hung, but the GREEN GOODS-MAN escaped, for the only proof against him was that he sold a quantity of paper cut in the shape of bills, and done up in packages of that size.

2. (venery).—A FRESH BIT (*q.v.*) fancier. Also an amateur of defloration; a MINOTAUR (*q.v.*).

**GREEN-GOOSE**, *subs.* (old).—1. A cuckold.

2. (old).—A prostitute. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1594. SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour Lost*, iv., 3. This is the liver vein, which makes flesh a deity; A GREEN GOOSE, a goddess, pure, pure idolatry.

1607. BEAUMONT AND FLETCHER, *Woman Hater*, i., 2. His palace is full of GREEN GEESE.

**GREEN-GOWN**. TO GIVE A GREEN-GOWN, *verb. phr.* (old).—To tumble a woman on the grass; to copulate. For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.



1647-8. HERRICK, *Hesperides*. 'To Corinna To go a Maying.' Many a GREEN GOWN has been given.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. GREEN GOWN, s.v. A throwing of young lasses on the grass and kissing them.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 277. KIT GAVE A GREEN GOWN to Betty, and lent her his hand to rise.

1719. SMITH, *Lives of Highwaymen*, i., 214. Our gallant being disposed to give his lady a GREEN GOWN.

1742. C. JOHNSON, *Highwaymen and Pyrates. Passim*.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GREEN-HEAD**, *subs.* (old). — A greenhorn. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. GREENHEAD, s.v., A very raw novice or inexperienced fellow.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GREENHORN** (or **GREEN-HEAD**, or **GREENLANDER**), *subs.* (common). — A simpleton; a fool; a GULL (*q.v.*); also a new hand. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD. TO COME FROM GREENLAND = to be fresh to things; RAW (*q.v.*). GREENLANDER sometimes = an Irishman.

1753. *Adventurer*, No. 100. A slouch in my gait, a long lank head of hair and an unfashionable suit of drab-coloured cloth, would have denominated me a GREENHORN, or in other words, a country put very green.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xlv. 'Why, wha but a crack-brained GREENHORN wad hae let them keep up the siller that ye left at the Gordon-Arms?'

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*. A new pall . . . Where did he come from? GREENLAND.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. ix. All these he resigned to lock himself into a lone little country house, with a simple widow and a GREENHORN of a son.

**GREENHOUSE**, *subs.* (London 'bus-drivers'). — An omnibus.

**GREEN HOWARDS**, *subs. phr.* (military). — The Nineteenth Foot. [From its facings and its Colonel's name (1738-48), and to distinguish it from the Third Foot, also commanded by a Col. Howard.] Also HOWARD'S GARBAGE.

**GREEN KINGSMAN**, *subs.* (pugilistic). — A silk pocket-handkerchief: any pattern on a green ground.

**GREEN LINNETS**, *subs. phr.* (military). — The 39th Foot. [From the facings.]

**GREENLY**, *adv.* (old). — Like a greenhorn; foolishly.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, Act iv., Sc. 5. *King*. . . . We have done but GREENLY, In hugger-mugger to inter him.

**GREENMANS**, *subs.* (old). — I. The fields; the country.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark all*, p. 38 (H. Club's Rept.) 1874. GREENEMANS, the fields.

2. *in. sing.* (builders'). — A contractor who speculates with other people's money.

**GREEN-MEADOW**, *subs.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**GREENNESS**, *subs.* (colloquial). — Immaturity of judgment; inexperience; gullibility.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GREENNESS (s) . . . also the rawness, unskilfulness, or imperfection of any person in a trade, art, science, etc.

1838. JAS. GRANT, *Sketches in London*, ch. vi., p. 205. Instances of such perfect simplicity or GREENNESS, as no one could have previously deemed of possible existence.

**GREEN-RAG.**—See GREENY, sense 1.

**GREEN-RIVER.** TO SEND A MAN UP GREEN-RIVER, *verb. phr.* (American).—To kill. [From a once famous factory on Green River, where a favourite hunting-knife was made.] For synonyms, see COOK ONE'S GOOSE.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 175. A thrust from the keen scalp-knife by the nervous arm of a mountaineer was no baby blow, and seldom failed to strike home UP TO THE GREEN RIVER [*i.e.*, the mark] on the blade.

**GREEN-SICKNESS**, *subs.* (old).—Chlorosis.

**GREEN-TURTLE.** TO LIVE UP TO GREEN-TURTLE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To do, and give, one's best. [From the high esteem in which the green fat of turtle is held.]

1888. PATON, *Down the Islands*. People who, as hosts, LIVE UP TO THEIR GREEN TURTLE.

**GREENWICH BARBER**, *subs.* (old).—A retailer of sand from the Greenwich pits. [A pun upon 'shaving' the banks.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GREENWICH-GOOSE**, *subs.* (old).—A pensioner of Greenwich Hospital.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GREENY**, *subs.* (old theatrical).—1. The curtain. [From the colour.] Also GREEN-RAG.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, p. 110 [ed. 1890]. It is far more difficult to please the company behind GREENY; I beg pardon, sir, I should have said than the audience before the curtain.

2. (University).—A freshman. For synonyms, see SNOOKER.

1834. SOUTHEY, *The Doctor*, ch. i. He was entered among the GREENIES of this famous University.

3. (common).—A simpleton; a GREENHORN (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1852. JUDSON, *Myst.*, etc., of *New York*, part III., ch. 9, p. 58. Anybody could know that these was took by a GREENY.

1887. *Congregationalist*, 7 April. Jim said I was a GREENY . . . [and] that he had a lot of houses.

**GREETIN' FU'**, *adv. phr.* (Scots'). Drunk: literally 'crying drunk.' For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

**GREEZE**, *subs.* (Westminster School).—A crowd; a PUSH (*q.v.*).

**GREGORIAN**, *subs.* (old).—A kind of wig worn in the 17th century. [After the inventor, one Gregory, a barber in the Strand.]

1658. *Honest Ghost*, p. 46. Pulling a little down his GREGORIAN.

**GREGORIAN-TREE**, *subs.* (old).—The gallows. [After a sequence of three hangmen of the name.] For synonyms, see NUBBING-CHEAT.

1641. *Mercurius Pragmaticus*. This trembles under the black rod, and he DOTH fear his fate from the GREGORIAN TREE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GREGORINE**, *subs.* (common).—A louse; specifically, head vermin. [From the Italian.] For synonyms, see CHATES.

**GRESHAMITE**, *subs.* (old).—A Fellow of the Royal Society.—B.E. [1690.]

**GREY.**—See GRAY, *passim*.

**GRIDDLE**, *subs.* (streets'). — To sing in the streets. Whence, GRIDDLING = street - singing; GRIDDLER = a street-singer.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*. Got a month for GRIDDLING in the main drag.

1877. BESANT AND RICE, *Son of Vulcan*, pt. I. ch. xii. Cardiff Jack's never got so low as to be GRIDDLING on the main drag—singing, I mean, on the high-road.

1888. W. BESANT, *Fifty Years Ago*, ch. iv., p. 53. They [street singers] have not yet invented Moody and Sankey, and therefore they cannot sing 'Hold the Fort' or 'Dare to be a Daniel,' but there are hymns in every collection which suit the GRIDLER.

1890. *Daily Telegraph*, 20 May. Singing or shouting hymns in the streets on Sundays. To this system the name of GRIDLING has been applied. The GRIDLERS, it was stated, were known to boast, as they returned to their haunts in Deptford and Southwark, how much they could make in a few hours.

**GRIDIRON**, *subs.* (American). — 1. The United States' flag; the STARS AND STRIPES. Also STARS AND BARS; BLOOD AND ENTRAILS; GRIDIRON AND DOUGHBOYS; and, in speaking of the Eagle in conjunction with the flag, the GOOSE AND GRIDIRON.

2. (common). — A County Court Summons. [Originally applied to Writs of the Westminster Court, the arms of which resemble a gridiron.]

1859. SALA, *Gaslight and Daylight*, ch. xxi. He collects debts for anybody in the neighbourhood, takes out the abhorred GRIDIRONS, or County Court summonses.

3. (thieves'). — The bars on a cell window. Fr., *les gaules de Scharlard*.

THE GRIDIRON, *subs. phr.* (common). — The Grafton Club. [Where the grill is a speciality.]

ON THE GRIDIRON, *adv. phr.* (common). — Troubled; harassed; in a bad way; ON TOAST (*q.v.*).

THE WHOLE GRIDIRON, *subs. phr.* (common). — See WHOLE ANIMAL.

**GRIEF**, To COME TO GRIEF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To come to ruin; to meet with an accident; to fail. In quot., 1891 = trouble.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. x. We drove on to the Downs, and we were nearly COMING TO GRIEF. My horses are young, and when they get on the grass they are as if they were mad.

1888. *Cassell's Saturday Jour.*, 8 Dec., p. 249. In the United States he had started a 'Matrimonial Agency,' in which he had COME TO GRIEF, and he had been obliged to return to this country for a similar reason.

1891. *Sportsman*, 28 Feb. The flag had scarcely fallen than the GRIEF commenced, as Midshipmite and Carlo rolled over at the first fence, Clanranald refused at the second, and Dog Fox fell at the third.

**GRIFFIN** (or **GRIFF**), *subs.* (common). — 1. A new-comer; a raw hand; a GREENHORN (*q.v.*) See SNOOKER and SAMMY SOFT. [Specific uses are (Anglo-Indian) = a new arrival from Europe; (military) = a young subaltern; (Anglo-Chinese) = an unbroken horse. GRIFFINAGE (or GRIFFINISM) = the state of greenhornism.

1859. H. KINGSLEY, *Geoffrey Hamlyn*, ch. xxviii. All the GRIFFINS ought to hunt together.

1878. BESANT AND RICE, *By Celia's Arbour*, ch. xxx. We were in the Trenches; there had been joking with a lot of GRIFFS, young recruits just out from England.

1882. MISS BRADDON, *Mount Royal*, ch. xxii. There was only one of the lads about the yard when he left, for it was breakfast-time, and the little GRIFFIN didn't notice.



1883. *Graphic*, 17 March, p. 286, c.  
3. Many a youngster has got on in his profession . . . by having the good fortune to make a friend of the old Indian who took him in as a GRIFFIN or a stranger.

2. (colloquial).—A woman of forbidding manners or appearance; a GORGON. Also a caretaker, chaperon, or SHEEP-DOG (*q.v.*) [A reflection of the several griffins of ornithology and of heraldry: the former a feeder on birds, small mammals, and even children; the latter (as in Milton) a perfection of vigilance.]

1824. R. B. PEAKE, *Americans Abroad*, i., 2. It is always locked up by that she-GRIFFIN with a bunch of keys.

3. (thieves').—A signal: *e.g.*, TO TIP THE GRIFFIN = to warn; TO GIVE THE OFFICE (*q.v.*), or TIP (*q.v.*). THE STRAIGHT GRIF-FIN = the straight tip.

1888. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 22 Dec., p. 305. Plank yourself at the corner to give the GRIFFIN if you hear or see owt.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 22. He's got the STRAIGHT GRIF-F for something.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 95. When he wanted to GIVE the chaps in the office THE STRAIGHT GRIFFIN, he used to say, 'Nelson's my guide.'

4. *in. pl.* (trade).—The scraps and leavings from a contract feast, which are removed by the purveyor.

GRIFF-METOLL, *subs.* (old).—Sixpence. For synonyms, *see* TANNER.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*, s.v.

GRIG, *subs.* (old).—1. An active, lively, and jocose person: as in the phrase 'Merry as a GRIG.' [An allusion to the liveliness of the grasshopper, sand-eel, or to GRIG (= Greek: *cf.*, *Tróilus* and *Cressida* i. 2; iv. 4).]

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie. Gale-bon-temps*. A MERRY GRIG.

1673. WYCHERLEY, *Gent. Danc. Master*, i., 1., wks. (1713) 251. Hah, ah, ah, cousin, dou art a merry GRIGG—na foy.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, GRIG s.v. A merry GRIG; a merry fellow.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 43. The statesman that talks on the Woolsack so big, Could hustle to the open as MERRY AS A GRIG.

1765. GOLDSMITH, *Essays VI*. I grew as merry as a GRIG, and laughed at every word that was spoken.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xix, p. 159. The learned gentleman . . . is as merry as a GRIG at a French watering-place.

2. (thieves').—A farthing; a GIGG (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* FADGE.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. Not a GRIG did he tip me, not a farthing would he give me.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1839. HARRISON AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], p. 15. 'He shall go through the whole course,' replied Blue-skin, with a ferocious grin, 'unless he comes down to the last GRIG.'

*Verb.* (American).—To vex; to worry.

1855. HALIBURTON [S. Slick], *Human Nature*, p. 83. That word 'superiors' GRIGGED me. Thinks I, 'My boy, I'll just take that expression, roll it up in a ball, and shy it back at you.'

GRIM, *subs.* (American thieves').—A skeleton. Also GRIN.

OLD MR. GRIM, *subs. phr.* (common).—Death. For synonyms, *see* OLD FLOORER.

GRIN, *verb.* (American University, Virginia).—*See* quot.

1887. *Lippincott*, July, p. 99. If here are many 'old men' in the room they immediately begin to GRIN HIM; that is, they strike on their plates with their knives and forks, beat with their feet, and shout at the top of their voices, in the effort to make their victim grin. Woe to him if they succeed; for in that event the same thing will be repeated three times a day, until he ceases to notice it.

TO GRIN IN A GLASS CASE.  
*verb. phr.* (old).—To be shown as an anatomical preparation. [The bodies and skeletons of criminals were once preserved in glass cases at Surgeon's Hall.—GROSE.]

TO FLASH THE UPRIGHT GRIN, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To expose the person (of women).

GRINAGOG, THE CAT'S UNCLE,  
*subs. phr.* (old).—A grinning simpleton.—GROSE.

GRINCUMS, *subs.* (old).—Syphilis. For synonyms, *see* LADIES' FEVER.

1608. MIDDLETON, *Family of Love*, B. 1. I had a receipt for the GRINCOMES in his own hand.

1635. JONES, *Adrasta or the Woman's Spleen*, c. 2. You must know, sir, in a nobleman 'tis abusive; no, in him the serpigo, in a knight the GRINCOMES, in a gentleman the Neapolitan scabb, and in a serving man or artificer the plaine pox.

1637. MASSINGER, *Guardian*, iv. The comfort is, I am now secure from the GRINCOMES, I can lose nothing that way.

GRIND, *subs.* (common). — 1. A walk; a constitutional: *e.g.*, 'to take a GRIND' or (University) 'to go on the Grandchester (or Gog Magog Hills) GRIND.'

2. (common).—Daily routine; hard or distasteful work.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verdant Green*, pt. III., ch. xi. To a University man, a GRIND did not possess any reading signification, but a riding one. In fact, it was a steeple-chase, slightly varying in its details according to the college that patronised the pastime.

1870. *London Figaro*, 28 July. The world is a wearisome GRIND, love, Nor shirk we our turn at the wheel.

1880. A. TROLLOPE, *The Duke's Children*, ch. xxv. 'Isn't it a great GRIND, sir?' asked Silverbridge. 'A very great GRIND, as you call it. And there may be the GRIND and not the success. But—'

1880. *One and All*, 27 Mar., p. 207. Soul-weary of life's horrid GRIND, I long to come to thee.

3. (schools').—Study; reading up for an examination; also a plodding student, *i.e.*, a GRINDER.

1856. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School Days*, pt. II., ch. v. 'Come along, boys,' cries East, always ready to leave the GRIND, as he called it.

1887. *Chambers' Jour.*, 14 May, p. 310. Smalls made just such a goal as was required, and the GRIND it entailed was frequently of no slight profit to him.

4. (medical students'). — A demonstration: as (1) a 'public GRIND' given to a class and free to all; and (2) a 'private GRIND' for which a student pays an individual teacher. In America, a QUIZ (*q.v.*).

5. (Oxford University). — Athletic sports. Also, a training run.

1872. *Chambers' Jour.*, April. Joe Rullock, the mighty gymnasiarch, the hero of a hundred GRINDS, the unwearied haunter of the palæstra, could never give the lie to his whole past life, and deny his own gymnastics.

6. (venery). — An act of sexual intercourse: *e.g.*, To DO A GRIND. [MILL and GRINDSTONE (venery) = the female *pudendum*.] For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

1593. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Macinio*, the GRINDING of grist. Also taken for carnal copulation.

1647. *Ladies Parliament*. Digbie's lady takes it ill, that her Lord GRINDS not at her mill.

THE GRIND, *subs. phr.* (Cambridge University). — The ferry-boat at Chesterton.

*Verb.* (University). — 1. To prepare for examination to study; to read.

1858. T. HUGHES, *Tom Brown's School Days*, pt. II, ch. vii. 'The thing to find out,' said Tom meditatively, 'is how long one ought to GRIND at a sentence without looking at the crib.'

2. (University). — To teach; to instruct; TO COACH (*q.v.*).

3. (common). — To do a round of hard and distasteful work; to apply oneself to daily routine.

1880. *Punch*, 5 June, p. 253. 'Fred on Pretty Girls and Pictures.' And the pars in the *Scanmag*—he does them—are proper, and chock full of 'go.' Only paper I care to GRIND through.

4. (venery). — To copulate.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. GRIND, s.v.

5. *trans.* (American). — To vex; to 'put out.'

1879. W. D. HOWELLS, *Lady of the Aroostook*, ch. vii. After all, it does GRIND me to have lost that money!

Also GRINDING = (1) the act of reading or studying hard; (2) the act or occupation of preparing students, for an examination; and (3) the act of copulation.

ON THE GRIND, *subs. phr.* (venery). — Said of incontinent persons of both sexes. Also of prostitutes.

TO GRIND AN AXE. — See AXE.

TO GET A GRIND ON ONE, *verb. phr.* (American). — To play practical jokes; to tell a story against one; to annoy or vex.

TO GRIND WIND, *verb. phr.* (old prison). — To work the treadmill. See EVERLASTING STAIRCASE.

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON. *Police*, p. 322. On the treadmill . . . GRINDING WIND.

GRINDER, *subs.* (college). — 1. A private tutor; a COACH (*q.v.*). Cf., CRAMMER.

1812. MISS EDGEWORTH, *Patronage*, ch. iii. Put him into the hands of a clever GRINDER or crammer, and they would soon cram the necessary portion of Latin and Greek into him.

1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 201. Then contriving to accumulate five guineas to pay a GRINDER, he routs out his old note books from the bottom of his box and commences to read.

1841. A. SMITH, 'The London Medical Student' in *Punch*, I., p. 229. G was a GRINDER, who sharpen'd the fools.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. v. She sent me down here with a GRINDER. She wants me to cultivate my neglected genius.

2. Usually *in. pl.* (common). — The teeth.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Bones; chatters; cogs; crashing cheats; dining-room furniture (or chairs); dinner-set; dominoes; front-rails; Hampstead Heath (rhynning); head rails; ivories; park-palings (or railings); snagglers; tushes (or tusks); tomb-stones.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Les sœurs blanches* (thieves) = the 'white sisters' or ivories; *les chocottes* (thieves); *les cassantes* (thieves = grinders); *les broches* (popular = head-rails); *les crocs* (popular = tusks); *le clou de girofle* (common = a decayed, black tooth); *les branlantes* (popular = the quakers: specifi-



cally, old men's teeth); *le mobilier* (thieves' = furniture); *les meules de moulin* (popular = millstones); *le jeu de dominos* (thieves' = dominoes); *les osanores* (thieves'); *les osselets* (thieves' = bonelets); *les palettes* (popular and thieves'); *la batterie* (= the teeth, throat, and tongue).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Krächling* (= grinderkin; from *krachen* = to crush).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Merlo* (= battlement); *sganascio*; *rastrelliera* (= the rack).

1597. HALL, *Satires*, iv., i. Her GRINDERS like two chalk stones in a mill.

1640. HUMPHREY MILL, *Night's Search*, Sect. 39, p. 194. Her GRINDERS white, her mouth must show her age.

1653. UROUHART, *Rabelais*, bk. IV. Author's Prologue. The devil of one musty crust of a brown George the poor boys had to scour their GRINDERS with.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. GRINDER, s.v. The Cove has Rum GRINDERS, the Rogue has excellent Teeth.

1693. DRYDEN, *Juvenal*, x., 355. One, who at sight of supper open'd wide His jaws before, and whetted GRINDERS tried.

1740. WALPOLE, *Correspondence*. A set of gnashing teeth, the GRINDERS very entire.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. xlv. Like a dried walnut between the GRINDERS of a Templar in the pit.

1817. SCOTT, *Ivanhoe*, c. 16. None who beheld thy GRINDERS contending with these pease.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 23. With GRINDERS dislodg'd, and with peepers both poach'd.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. iv., ch. i. A GRINDER having been dislodged, his pipe took possession of the aperture.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 83. Every now and then he would clap his head sideways on the ground, so as to get the back GRINDERS to bear on his prey.

1848. THACKERAY, *Book of Snobs* ch. xiii. Sir Robert Peel, though he wished it ever so much, has no power over Mr. Benjamin Disraeli's GRINDERS, or any means of violently handling that gentleman's jaw.

1871. *Chambers' Jour.*, 9 Dec., p. 772. My GRINDERS is good enough for all the wittels I gets.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 28 Nov. Countered heavily on the GRINDERS.

TO TAKE A GRINDER, *verb. phr.* (common).—To apply the left thumb to the nose, and revolve the right hand round it, as if to work a hand-organ or coffee-mill; TO TAKE A SIGHT (*q.v.*); TO WORK THE COFFEE-MILL (*q.v.*). [A street boy's retort on an attempt to impose on his good faith or credulity.]

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxxi. Here Mr. Jackson smiled once more upon the company; and, applying his left thumb to the tip of his nose, worked a visionary coffee-mill with his right hand, thereby performing a very graceful piece of pantomime (then much in vogue, but now, unhappily, almost obsolete) which was familiarly denominated TAKING A GRINDER.

1870. *Athenæum*, 8 July. 'Rev. of *Comic Hist. of United States*.' He finds himself confronted by a plumed and lightly-clad Indian, who salutes him with what street-boys term a GRINDER.

GRINDING-HOUSE, *subs.* (old).—

1. The House of Correction. For synonyms, see CAGE.

1614. *Terence in English*. The fellow is worthy to be put into the GRINDING-HOUSE.

2. (venery).—A brothel. For synonyms, see NANNY-SHOP. [GRINDING-TOOL = the penis.]

**GRINDING - MILL**, *subs.* (common).

—The house of a tutor or **COACH** (*q.v.*) where students are prepared for an examination.

**GRIND-OFF** (or **GRINDO**), *subs.* (common).—A miller. [From a character in *The Miller and his Men*.]

**GRINDSTONE**, *subs.* (common).—1. A tutor; a **COACH** (*q.v.*).

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*.

TO BRING (HOLD, PUT, or KEEP) ONE'S NOSE TO THE **GRINDSTONE**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To oppress, harass, or punish; to treat harshly. TO HAVE ONE'S NOSE KEPT TO THE **GRINDSTONE** = to be held to a bargain, or at work.

1578. NORTH, *Plutarch*, p. 241. They might be ashamed, for lack of courage, to suffer the Lacedæmonians to hold their noses TO THE **GRINDSTONE**.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HOLD**. HOLD HIS NOSE TO THE **GRINDSTONE**, to keep him Under, or Tie him Neck and Heels in a Bargain.

TO HAVE THE **GRINDSTONE** ON HIS BACK, *verb. phr.* (common).—Said of a man going to fetch the monthly nurse.—GROSE.

**GRINNING-STITCHES**, *subs.* (milliners').—Slovenly sewing; stitches wide apart; **LADDERS** (*q.v.*).

**GRIP** (or **GRIPSACK**), *subs.* (American).—A hand-bag or satchell.

TO LOSE ONE'S **GRIP**, *verb. phr.* (American).—To fail; to lose one's control.

**GRIBE**, *subs.* (old).—1. A miser; a usurer. Also **GRIPER** or **GRIBE-FIST** (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see **HUNKS** and **SIXTY-PER-CENT**. **GRIPING** = extortion.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. **GRIBE**, or **GRIPER**, s.v. An old covetous wretch. Also a banker, money scrivener, or usurer.

2. *in. pl.* (colloquial).—The colic; the stomach ache; the **COLLYWOBBLES**. For synonyms, see **JERRY-GO-NIMBLE**.

1684. BUNYAN, *Pilgr. Prog.*, Pt. II. He concluded that he was sick of the **GRIPES**.

1705. *Char. of a Sneake*, in *Harl. Misc.* (ed. Park), ii., 356. He never looks upon her Majesty's arms but *sempereadem* gives him the **GRIPES**.

1714. *Spectator*, No 559. Meeting the true father, who came towards him with a fit of the **GRIPES**, he begged him to take his son again, and give back his colic.

1812. COOMBE, *Tour in Search of Picturesque*, c. xxvi. That he who daily smokes two pipes, The tooth-ache never has—nor **GRIPES**.

**GRIBE-FIST**, *subs.* (common).—A miser; a grasping broker. For synonyms, see **HUNKS**. Also **GRIBE-PENNY**.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**GRIST**, *subs.* (American).—A large number or quantity. [Swift uses **GRIST** = a supply; a provision.]

1818. COOPER, *Oak Openings*. There's an unaccountable **GRIST** of bees, I can tell you.

1852. *Traits of American Humour*, i., 305. I . . . got pretty considerable soaked by a **GRIST** of rain.

TO BRING **GRIST** TO THE **MILL**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To bring profitable business; to be a source of profit.

1719. *Poor Robin's Almanack*, May. Lawyers pleading do refrain A while, and then fall to 't again; Strife brings **GRIST** unto their mill.

1770. FOOTE, *Lame Lover*, i. Well, let them go on, it brings **GRIST** TO OUR **MILL**.

1804. HORSLEY, *Speech*, 23 July. A sly old pope created twenty new saints, TO BRING **GRIST** TO THE **MILL** of the London clergy.

1817. SCOTT, *Ivanhoe*, c. 16. Some three or four dried pease—a miserable **GRIST** for such a mill.

1838. DICKENS, *Nich. Nickleby*, ch. xxxiv., p. 268. Meantime the fools BRING GRIST TO MY MILL.

**GRISTLE**, *subs.* (venery). — The penis. For synonyms, see CREAM-STICK and PRICK.

**GRIT**, *subs.* (originally American: now colloquial). — 1. Character; pluck; spirit; SAND (*q.v.*). Also CLEAR GRIT. NO GRIT = lacking in stamina; wanting in courage.

1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, bk. II., ch. xiv. A chap who was clear GRIT for a tussle, any time.

1848. BURTON, *Waggeries, etc.*, p. 13. The old folks . . . began to think that she warn't the CLEAR GRIT.

1849. C. KINGSLEY, *Alton Locke*, ch. vi. A real lady — *l'air noble* — the rael genuine GRIT, as Sam Slick says.

1852. H. B. STOWE, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, ch. vii. You're a right brave old girl. I like GRIT, wherever I see it.

1860. THACKERAY, *Philip*, ch. xxxi. If you were a chip of the old block you would be just what he called the GRIT.

1889. *Referee*, 6 Jan. They never did think there was any real GRIT about him.

1890. *Scribner*, Feb., 242. 'Looks like he got GRIT, don't it?' Lige muttered.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 249. I am as full of GRIT and work as ever, and just tower above our troubles.

2. (Canadian political). — A member of the Liberal party.

**GRITTY**, *adj.* (American). — Plucky; courageous; resolute; full of character.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 106. There never was a GRITTYER cload congregated on that stream.

**GRIZZLE**, *verb.* (colloquial). — To fret. Also TO GRIZZLE ONE'S GUTS.

1872. MISS BRADDON, *To the Bitter End*, ch. xvi. 'If the locket's lost, it's lost,' she said philosophically; 'and there's no use in GRIZZLING about it.'

**GRIZZLE-GUTS** (or **GRIZZLE-** or **GLUM-POT**). *subs.* (common). — A melancholy or ill-tempered person; a SULKINGTON (*q.v.*).

**GROANER**, *subs.* (old). — A thief plying his trade at funerals or religious gatherings.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, s. v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s. v.

**GROANING**, *subs.* (old). — The act of parturition. Also, *adj.*, parturient; or appertaining to parturition: as in GROANING - MALT (Scots') = drink for a lying-in; GROANING-PAINS = the pangs of delivery; GROANING-WIFE = a woman ready to lie-in.

1591. NASHE, *Unfort. Trav.* (Chiswick Press, 1892), p. 92. As smoothe as a GROANING-WIFE'S bellie.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iii., 2. It would cost you a GROANING to take off my edge.

1786. BURNS, *The Rantin' Dog the Daddie O't*. Wha will bring the GROANING-MALT?

**GROATS**, *subs.* (nautical). — The chaplain's monthly allowance.

TO SAVE ONE'S GROATS. *verb. phr.* (old University). — To come off handsomely. [At the Universities nine groats are deposited in the hands of an academic officer by every person standing for a degree, which, if the depositor obtains, with honour, are returned to him. — GROSE.]

**GROCERY**, *subs.* (common). — 1. Small change.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s. v.

2. (American). — A drinking bar. Also CONFECTIONERY and GROGGERY.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc. 104. He went into his favourite GROCERY.



3. (common).—Sugar. [A restricted use of a colloquialism.]

1841. LYTTON, *Night and Morning*, Bk. V., ch. ii. A private room and a pint of brandy, my dear. Hot water and lots of the GROCERY.

**GROG**, *subs* (old: now recognised).

—Spirits and water; strong drink generally. [Till Admiral Vernon's time (1745) rum was served neat, but he ordered it to be diluted, and was therefore nicknamed 'Old Grog,' in allusion to his program coat: a phrase that was presently adapted to the mixture he had introduced.] GROGGY = drunk.

*Verb.* (old).—To dilute or adulterate with water.

1878. *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, 8 Mar. The defendants had GROGGED the casks by putting in hot water.

TO HAVE GROG ON BOARD (OR TO BE GROGGED), *verb. phr.* (common).—To be drunk. For synonyms, see SCREWED.

1842. *Comic Almanack*, October. He stands and listens, sad and dogged, To 'fined five bob' for being GROGGED.

**GROG-BLOSSOM**, *subs.* (common).—

A pimple caused by drinking to excess. Also COPPER-NOSE and JOLLY-NOSE. Fr., *un nez culotté* and *un nez de pompettes*.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, GROG-BLOSSOM, s.v.

1883. THOS. HARDY, *The Three Strangers*, in *Longman's Mag.*, March, p. 576. A few GROG-BLOSSOMS marked the neighbourhood of his nose.

1888. W. BESANT, *Fifty Years Ago*, ch. xi., p. 169. The outward and visible signs of rum were indeed various. First, there was the red and swollen nose, next, the nose beautifully painted with GROG-BLOSSOMS.

**GROG-FIGHT**, *subs.* (military).—A drinking party. Cf., TEA-FIGHT.

1876. R. M. JEPHSON, *Girl he Left Behind Him*, ch. i. He had been having a GROG-FIGHT in his room to celebrate the event.

**GROGGERY**, *subs.* (American).—A public bar; a grog-shop.

**GROGGY**, *adj.* (colloquial). — I. Under the influence of drink. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1829. BUCKSTONE, *Billy Taylor*, i., as a gay young woman, will delude Taylor away from Mary, make him GROGGY, then press him off to sea.

1863. *Fun*, 23 May, p. 98, c. 2. They fined drunkards and swearers, and there is a record in the parish-books, among others of a similar nature, of a certain Mrs. Thunder who was fined twelve shillings for being, like Mr. Cruikshank's horse at the Brighton Review, decidedly GROGGY.

1872. *Echo*, 30 July. A model of perfection had she not shown more than necessary partiality to her elder friend's brandy bottle during the journey, despite the latter's oft-repeated caution not to become GROGGY.

2. (colloquial).—Staggering or stupified with drink. Also (stable) moving as with tender feet. Also (pugilists') unsteady from punishment and exhaustion. Fr., *locher* = to be GROGGY.

1831. YOUATT, *The Horse*, ch. xvi., p. 380. Long journeys at a fast pace will make almost any horse GROGGY.

1846-8. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, vol. ii., ch. v. Cuff coming up full of pluck, but quite reeling and GROGGY, the Fig-merchant put in his left as usual on his adversary's nose, and sent him down for the last time.

1853. *Diogenes*, vol. ii., p. 177. The anxiety is not confined to the metropolis; as a respectable grazier, who rides a GROGGY horse, on hearing of it at a public-house the other day, affirmed it to be the mysterious cause of the rise in the value of horseflesh.

1888. *Sportsman*, 28 Nov. In the tenth Thompson, who had been growing GROGGY, to the surprise of Evans began to force the fighting.

**GROGHAM**, *subs.* (old).—A horse ; a DAISY-KICKER (*q.v.*). Now mostly in contempt. For synonyms, see PRAD.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GROG-SHOP**, *subs.* (common).—The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATOE-TRAP.

1843. THACKERAY, *Men's Wives*, Frank Berry, ch. i. Claret drawn in profusion from the gown-boy's GROG-SHOP.

**GROG-TUB**, *subs.* (nautical).—A brandy bottle.

**GROOM**, *subs.* (gamesters').—A croupier.

**GROOMED**. See WELL-GROOMED.

**GROOVY**, *subs.* (American).—A sardine.

*Adj.* (popular).—Settled in habit ; limited in mind.

**GROPE**, *verb.* (venery).—To feel a woman ; to fumble ; to FAM (*q.v.*).

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie. Mariolement*. GROPING of a wench.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 194. Smoking, toping, Landlady GROPING.

**GROPER**, *subs.* (old).—I. A blind man ; HOODMAN (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—A pocket. For synonyms, see BRIGH and SKY-ROCKET.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 143. GROPERS. Pockets.

3. (old).—A midwife ; a FINGER-SMITH (*q.v.*).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GROTTO**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**GROUND**. To SUIT DOWN TO THE GROUND, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be thoroughly becoming or acceptable.

1878. M. E. BRADDON, *Cloven Foot*, ch. xlv. Some sea coast city in South America would SUIT ME DOWN TO THE GROUND.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 9 Feb. I knows the very bloke that'll SUIT YOU DOWN TO THE GROUND.

1891. *Sporting Life*, 28 Mar. At Knowle he is SUITED DOWN TO THE GROUND.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. ii. They SUIT ME RIGHT DOWN TO THE GROUND.

To WIPE (or MOP) UP THE GROUND (or FLOOR) WITH ONE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To administer the very soundest thrashing ; to prove ones-lf absolutely superior to one's opposite.

1887. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Deacon Brodie*, i., 3. Muck ! that's my opinion of him ; . . . I'll MOP THE FLOOR UP WITH HIM any day, if so be as you or any on 'em 'll make it worth my while.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, Aug. The Scroggin boy was as tough as a dog-wood knot. He'd WIPE UP THE GROUND WITH HIM ; he'd walk all over him.

To GO (or GET) WELL TO THE GROUND, *verb. phr.* (old colloquial).—To defæcate ; to REAR (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see MRS. JONES.

1608. MIDDLETON, *Family of Love*, v. 3. Do you GO WELL TO THE GROUND ?

1856. *Notes and Queries*, 2 S., i., p. 324. To GET TO THE GROUND, in medical phraseology, means to have the bowels opened.

**GROUNDER**, *subs.* (cricketers').—A ball with a ground delivery; a SNEAK; a GRUB; and (in America) at base-ball, a ball struck low, or flying near the ground.

**GROUND-FLOOR**. TO BE LET IN ON THE GROUND-FLOOR, *verb. phr.* (American).—To share in a speculation on equal terms with the original promoters.

**GROUND-SQUIRREL**, *subs.* (old).—A hog; a GRUNTER—*Lex. Bal.* For synonyms, see SOW'S BABY.

**GROUND-SWEAT**. TO HAVE (or TAKE) A GROUND-SWEAT, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be buried.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*.  
GROUND SWEAT, s.v., a grave.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GROUSE**. TO DO A GROUSE (or TO GO GROUSING), *verb. phr.* (venery).—To quest, or to run down, a woman; TO MOLROW (*q.v.*). GROUSED = MOLLED (*q.v.*).

**GROUSER**, *subs.* (popular).—1. A grumbler. For synonyms, see RUSTY-GUTS.

2. (venery).—One who goes questing after women; a MOLROWER (*q.v.*).

3. (sporting).—A rowing man; a WET-BOB (*q.v.*).

**GROUSING**, *subs.* (venery).—Going in quest of women; SPARROW-CATCHING (*q.v.*); MOLROWING (*q.v.*).

**GROUTE**, *verb.* (Marlborough and Cheltenham Colleges).—To work or study hard; to SWOT (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see WIRE IN.

**GROUTY**, *adj.* (common).—Crabbed; sulky.

**GROVE OF EGLANTINE**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*; also the female pubic hair. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE and FLÉECE.

1772. CAREW, *Poems*. 'A Rapture.'  
Retire into thy GROVE OF EGLANTINE.

**GROVE OF THE EVANGELIST**, *subs. phr.* (common).—St. John's Wood; also APOSTLE'S GROVE, and the BAPTIST'S WOOD.

**GROW**, *verb.* (prison).—To be accorded the privilege of letting one's hair and beard grow. Also TO GROW ONE'S FEATHERS.

**GROWLER**, *subs.* (common).—A four-wheeled cab. Cf., SULKY.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Bird-cage; blucher; bounder; fever-trap; flounder - and - dab (rhyming); four-wheeler; groping hutch; mab (an old hackney); rattler; rumbler.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Un bordel ambulant* (common = a walking brothel); *un char numéroté* (popular); *un fiatar* (thieves'); *un fouloir ambulant* (= a fuckery on wheels); *un mylord* (popular).

1870. *Orchestra*, 21 Mar. A recent enigmatical bill-poster on the walls, with the device 'Hie, Cabby, Hie!' turns out to be a Patent Cab Call—an ingenious sort of lamp-signal for remote hansoms and GROWLERS.

1873. *Land and Water*, 25 Jan. The knacker's yard is baulked for a time, while the quadruped shambles along in some poverty-stricken GROWLER.



1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 Jan., p. 5, c. 3. But while a great improvement has been made in hansoms of late years, the four-wheeler or GROWLER is still as a rule a disgrace to the metropolis.

1890. *Daily Graphic*, 7 Jan., p. 14, c. 1. What with hansom cabs and GROWLERS and private broughams; what with bonded carmen's towering waggons.

1891. *Globe*, 15 July, p. 1, c. 3. Adapting the words of Waller to the condition of many of our GROWLERS—The cab's dull framework, battered and decayed, Lets in the air through gaps that time has made.

TO RUSH (or WORK) THE GROWLER, *verb. phr.* (American workmen's).—See quot. [GROWER = pitcher.]

1883. *New York Herald*, 29 July. One evil of which the inspectors took particular notice was that of the employment by hands in a number of factories of boys and girls, under ten and thirteen years, to fetch beer for them, or in other words TO RUSH THE GROWLER.

**GROWN-MAN'S-DOSE**, *subs.* (common).—A lot of liquor. Also a LONG DRINK (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see GO.

**GROWN-UP**, *subs.* (colloquial).—An adult: among undertakers, a GROWN.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, Bk. ii., ch. 1. I always did like GROWN UPS.

**GRUB**, *subs.* (vulgar).—I. Food.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Belly-cheer (or chere); belly-furniture; belly-timber; Kaffir's tightener (specifically, a full meal); chuck; corn; gorge-grease; manablins (= broken victuals); mouth harness; mungarily; peck; prog; scoff (S. African); scan; stodge; tack; tommy (specifically, bread); tuck; yam. Also, verbally, to bung the cask; to grease the gills; to have the run of one's teeth; to yam. See also WOLF.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*La becquetance* (popular = peck); *le biffre* (popular); *la frigousse* (popular); *la fripe* (popular, from O. Fr., *fripper* = to eat); *la gringue* (common); *les matériaux* (freemason's = materials); *la briffe* (popular); *la toustifaille* (popular); *le harnois de gueule* (RABELAIS: = mouth-harness); *le coton* (popular, an allusion to a lamp-wick); *les comestaux* (popular = comestibles); *le tortorage* (thieves'); *la broute* (popular = grazing); *la morfe* (O. Fr. Also, in a verbal sense = to feed); *tortiller du bec* (popular = to wag a jaw); *se calfater le bec* (nautical: also = to drink); *becqueter* (popular = to 'peck'); *béquiller* (popular); *chiquer* (popular = to 'chaw'); *bouffer* (popular); *boulotter* (common); *taper sur les vivres* (popular = to assault the eatables); *pitancher* (common: also = to drink); *passer à la tortore* (thieves'); *se l'envoyer*; *casser la croustille* (thieves' = to crack a crust); *tortorer* (thieves); *briffer*; *passer à la briffe* (popular); *brouter* (VILLON = to browse); *se caler*, or *se caler les amygdales* (popular); *mettre de l'huile dans la lampe* (common = to trim the lamp); *se coller quelque chose dans le fanal, dans le fusil, or dans le tube* (popular = to trim one's beacon-light; to load one's gun, etc.); *chamailler des dents* (popular = to 'go it' with the ivories); *jouer des badigoinces* (common: *badigoinces* = chaps); *jouer des dominos* (popular: *dominos* = teeth); *déchirer la cartouche* (military); *gobichonner* (popular); *engouler* (popular = to bolt); *engueuler* (colloquial = to gobble); *friturer* (popular: also = to cook); *gonfler* (popular: to blow out); *morfaiillier* (Rabelaisian); *mor-*

*figner*, or *morfiler* (From O. Fr., *morfier*; cf., Ital., *morfire* or *morfizzare*); *cacher* (popular = to stow away); *se mettre quelque chose dans le cadavre* (popular = to stoke); *se lester la cale* (nautical: to lay in ballast); *se graisser les balots* (thieves': to grease the gills); *se caresser* (to do oneself a good turn); *effacer* (popular = to put away); *travailler pour M. Domange* (popular: M. Domange was a famous GOLDFINDER or GONG FARMER (q.v.); *clapoter* (popular); *debrider la margoulette* (popular = to put one's nose in the manger); *croustiller* (popular); *charger pour la guadaloupe* (popular); *travailler pour Jules* (common: Jules = Mrs. Jones); *se faire le jabot* (popular, jabot = stomach); *jouer des osanores* (popular: osanores = teeth); *casser* (thieves'); *claquer* (familiar = to rattle one's ivories); *klebjer* (popular); *faire trimer les mathurins* (popular = to make the running with one's teeth); *se coller quelque chose dans le bocal* (common: bocal = paunch); *estropier* (popular = to maim); *passer à gaillos* (nautical); *bourrer la paille* (common = to stuff the mattress); *faire trimer le baïtant* (thieves'); *jouer des mandibules* (popular); *s'emplier le gilet* (popular = to fill one's waistcoat); *se garnir le bocal* (popular: to furnish one's paunch); *se suivre la gargarousse* (nautical: also = to drink); *babouiner* (popular); *charger la canonnière* (popular: canonnière = the breech); *gousser* (popular); *gouffier* (obsolete).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Achile*, *Achelinchen*, or *Acheliniken* (from Heb. *Ochal*); *Achelputz* (from Heb. *ochal* + *putzen* from O.H.G. *bizan* or *pizzan* = to eat).

ITALIAN SYNONYMS.—*Artibrio*; and, verbally, *sbattere* (= to beat, to struggle); *intappare il fusto* (= to bung the cask); *smorfire*.

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Papar* (colloquial: from *papa* = pap); *hacer el buche* (low: buche = craw or crop); *echar* (colloquial); *manducar*; *meter*.

1659. *Dialogue betwixt an Exciseman and Death*, transcribed from a Copy in British Museum, printed in London by J. C[lar]k. I'll pass my word this night Shall yield us GRUB before the morning light.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* GRUB, s.v., victuals.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, I., 171. How did you procure your GRUB and BUB?

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 149. BUB AND GRUB. A mighty low expression, signifying victuals and drink.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. iii. Poor Purser! de people call him Purser, sir, because him knowing chap; him cabbage all de GRUB, slush, and stuff in him own corner.

d. 1842. MAGINN, *Vidocq's Song*. Any bubby and GRUB, I say?

1857. THACKERAY, *Shabby Genteel Story*, ch. i., p. 9. He used to . . . have his GRUB too on board.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. i., p. 45. I at once congratulated myself on not being a large eater, as there was no doubt but my GRUB would run very short if it depended on my oakum-picking.

1889. *Star*, 3 Dec., p. 2, c. 6. Of course it was GRUB. It was for food, the food for which they beg, and steal, and go willingly to prison, for a certain good square meal of meat.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 154. That sad, sad secret about Mary would keep him in GRUB for the next day or two at 'The Rose in Bloom.'

2. (old).—A short thick-set man; a dwarf. In contempt. For synonyms, see HOP-O'-MY-THUMB.

3. (colloquial).—A dirty sloven; generally used of elderly people.

4. (American). — A careful student; a hard reader.

1856. HALL, *College Words and Phrases*, quoted from *Williams' Coll. Quarterly*, ii., 246. A hard reader or student: e.g., not GRUBS or reading men, only wordy men.

5. (American). — Roots and stumps; whatever is 'grubbed up.'

6. (cricketers'). — A ball delivered along the ground; a GROUNDER (*q.v.*); a DAISY-CUTTER (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see LOB-SNEAK.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*. GRUB, s.v.

*Verb.* (old).—1. To take or supply with food. For synonyms, see *subs.* sense 1.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* GRUB, s.v., to eat.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GRUB, s.v., to dine.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxii., p. 184. I never see such a chap to eat and drink; never. The red-nosed man warn't by no means the sort of person you'd like to GRUB by contract, but he was nothin' to the shepherd.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 18 May, p. 3, c. 1. 'They are not bound to GRUB you, don't you know,' said Mr. Sleasey, 'and they try the starving dodge on you sometimes.'

2. (old).—To beg; to ask for alms, especially food.

3. (American).—To study, or read hard; to 'sweat.'

TO RIDE GRUB, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be sulky; CRUSTY (*q.v.*); disagreeable.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. TO RIDE GRUB, to be sullen or out of temper.

TO GRUB ALONG, *verb. phr.* (common).—To make one's way as best one can; 'to rub along.'

1838. *Daily Telegraph*, 19 Oct. When a youth left school to follow the pursuits of life he found that he had to GRUB ALONG as best he could.

GRUBBING, *subs.* (common).—Eating.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*. What with snoozing, high GRUBBING, and guzzling like Cloe.

GRUBBERY, *subs.* (common).—(1) an eating-house. Also (2) a dining-room, and (3) the mouth.

GRUBBING-CRIB, *subs.* (general).—1. An eating-house. GRUBBING-CRIB FAKER = the landlord of a cheap cookshop. Fr., *le nourrisseur*; Sp., *un ostalero*. See GRUB SHOP, sense 2.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Grubbery; grubby-, or grubbing-ken; grub-shop; guttle-shop; hash-house; mungarly casa; prog-shop; slap-bang shop; tuck-shop; waste-butt.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Un bourre - boyaux* (popular = a stuff-your-guts); *un claquedents* (popular, also = a brothel, or punting-house); *une guingette* (general); *une mangeoire* (popular = a grubbery: *manger* = to eat); *un maitais* (popular); *un gargot* (thieves').

GERMAN SYNONYM.—*Achilbajes* (from Heb., *Ochal* = to eat).

SPANISH SYNONYM.—*Ostaleria*, or *Osteria* (also = lush-crib).

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v.

2. (tramps').—A workhouse. For synonyms, see SPINNIKEN. Sometimes GRUBBIKEN.



1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., 416. I know all the good houses, and the tidy GRUBBIKENS—that's the unions where there's little or nothing to do for the food we gets.

**GRUBBLE**, *verb.* (colloquial).—(1) To feel for at random or in the dark; and (2) (venery) TO GROPE (*q.v.*).

1684. DRYDEN, *The Disappointment*. 'Prologue.' The doughty bullies enter bloody drunk, Invade and GRUBBLE one another's punk.

**GRUBBY**, *subs.* (thieves').—Food. [A diminutive of GRUB (*q.v.*).]

d. 1842. MAGINN, *Vidocq's Song*. I pattered in flash like a covey knowing, Tol lol, etc. Ay, bub or GRUBBY, I say.

*Adj.* (colloquial). — Dirty; slovenly.

d. 1845. HOOD, *A Black Job*. I like a GRUBBY lot of sooty sweeps or colliers.

**GRUB-HUNTING**, *subs.* (tramps').—Begging for food.

**GRUB-SHITE**, *verb.* (old). — To make foul or dirty; to bewray. — GROSE.

**GRUB-SHOP**, (or **CRIB-TRAP**, etc.), *subs.* (common).—1. The mouth; and (2) a GRUBBERY (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

1840. THACKERAY, *Comic Almanack*, p. 229. 'That's the GRUB SHOP,' said my lord, 'where we young gentlemen wot has money buys our wittles.'

3. See GRUBBING-CRIB in both senses.

**GRUB-STAKE**, *subs.* (American).—Food and other necessities furnished to mining prospectors in return for a share in the 'finds.' Hence, TO GRUB-STAKE = to speculate after this fashion.

1884. BUTTERWORTH, *Zig-zag Journeys*. When miners become so poor that they are not able to furnish the necessary tools and food with which to 'go prospecting, a third party of sufficient means

offers to furnish tools and provisions on condition that he is to have a certain interest in anything that may be found.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, p. 100. He GRUB-STAKED us and we used to work on the Tillie mine together.

**GRUB-STREET**, *subs.* (colloquial). —The world of cheap, mean, needy authors. [Originally a street near Moorfields, changed in 1830 to Milton Street.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. GRUB-STREET news, false, forg'd.

1728. POPE, *Dunciad*, iii., 135. Shall take through GRUB-STREET his triumphant round.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. A GRUB-STREET writer means a hackney author, who manufactures books for the booksellers.

1813. J. and H. SMITH, *Horace in London*, 'The Classic Villa.' GRUB-STREET, 'tis called.

1821. EGAN, *Life in London*, i. Few, if any, writers, out of the great mass of living scribblers, whether of GRUB-STREET fabrication, or of University passport . . . possess souls above buttons.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 119. We are going it, have got our agents in GRUB STREET.

**GRUEL**, *subs.* (common).—1. A beating; PUNISHMENT (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see TANNING. Hence, TO GET (or GIVE) ONE'S GRUEL = to castigate, or be well beaten; also killed. In the prize ring = to knock a man out for good. GRUELLED = floored; also GRUELLING.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xxviii. He gathered in general, that they expressed great indignation against some individual. 'He shall have his GRUEL,' said one.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Babes in the Wood.' He that was mildest in mood GAVE THE truculent rascal HIS GRUEL.

1849. C. KINGSLEY, *Alton Locke*, ch. xii. They were as well GRUELLED as so many posters, before they got to the stile.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 15 Dec. Preferred to be easily knocked out to TAKING HIS GRUEL like a man.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 23 Jan. Both men were badly punished, but George had, of course, the lion's share of the GRUEL.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Mirror*, 30 Jan., p. 7, c. 3. All the advantage rested with the same side for some little time, Paddock getting such a GRUELLING that his head swelled out like a pumpkin.

2. (American thieves'). -- Coffee.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

GRUELLER, *subs.* (common).—A knock-down blow; a settler; a FLOORER (*q.v.*).

GRUMBLE-GUTS, *subs.* (popular).—An inveterate croaker. Also GRUMBLE-GIZZARD.

GRUMBLES. TO BE ALL ON THE GRUMBLES, *verb. phr.* (popular).—To be discontented; cross; ON THE SNARLY-YOW (*q.v.*).

GRUMBLETONIAN, *subs.* (common).—A pattern of discontent: one ever on the grumble. [Grumbleton (during the reigns of the later Stuarts)=an imaginary centre of discontent; hence, GRUMBLETONIAN, a nickname of the County party, distinguished from the Court, as being in opposition.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. GRUMBLETONIANS, malecontents, out of Humour with the Government, for want of a Place, or having lost one.

1705-7. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. I., pt. 1, p. 24 (2nd Ed.). But all the GRUMBLETONIAN throng Did with such violence rush along.

1773. GOLDSMITH, *She Stoops to Conquer*, Act 1. Now, if I pleased, I could be so revenged upon the old GRUMBLETONIAN.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GRUMBLETONIAN, s.v., a discontented person.

1849-61. MACAULAY, *Hist. of Eng.*, ch. xix. Who were sometimes nicknamed the GRUMBLETONIANS, and sometimes honoured with the appellation of the County party.

GRUMMET, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

GRUMPY (or GRUMPISH), *adj.* (colloquial). — Surly; cross; angry.

1840. MRS. TROLLOPE, *Michael Armstrong*, ch. vi. If you blubber or look GRUMPISH.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, 3 a.m., par. 13. Calling you a 'cross, GRUMPY, old thing,' when you mildly suggest that it is very near bed-time.

1868. MISS BRADDON, *Trail of the Serpent*, bk. IV., ch. i. A GRUMPY old deaf keeper, and a boy, his assistant.

1883. *Punch*, 19 May, p. 230, c. 2. They all looked GRUMPY and down in the mouth.

GRUNDY, *subs.* (old).—A short fat man; a FORTY-GUTS (*q.v.*).—See MRS. GRUNDY.

1563. FOX, *Acts and Monuments* (London, 1844), iii., 1104. For that he being a short GRUNDY, and of little stature, did ride commonly with a great broad hat.

GRUNTER, *subs.* (old).—I. A pig; a GRUNTING-CHEAT (*q.v.*). In quot. 1652 = pork. For synonyms, see SOW'S BABY.

1656. BROME, *Jovial Crew*. Here's GRUNTER and bleater, with tib-of-the-buttry.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. GRUNTER, s.v. A sucking pig.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GRUNTER, s.v.

1841. *Comic Almanack*, p. 266. And the squeaking GRUNTER is loose on the green.

1847-50. TENNYSON, *Princess*, v. 26. A draggled mawkin, That tends her bristled GRUNTERS in the sludge.

2. (common).—A sixpence. In quot. 1785=1s. Cf., HOG and PIG.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* GRUNTER, s.v. A shilling.

1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, bk. III., ch. iii., p. 267. One of the men . . . had only taken three 'twelv'ers' [shillings] and a GRUNTER.

1885. *Household Words*, 20 June. p. 155. The sixpence . . . is variously known as a 'pig,' a 'sow's baby,' a GRUNTER, and 'half a hog.'

3. (common).—A policeman ; a TRAP (*q.v.*) ; a PIG (*q.v.* sense 2). For synonyms, see BEAK.

1820. *London Magazine*, i., 26. As a bonnet against . . . GRUNTERS.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*. GRUNTER, s.v., a country constable.

4. (tailors').—An habitual grumbler ; a GRUMBLE-GUTS (*q.v.*).

GRUNTER'S-GIG, *subs.* (old).—A smoked pig's chap.—GROSE.

GRUNTING-CHEAT, *subs.* (old).—A pig. See CHETE. For synonyms, see SOW'S BABY.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, p. 86. She has a cackling-chete, a GRUNTING-CHETE, ruff pecke, cassan, and poplarr of yarum.

1622. FLETCHER, *Beggar's Bush*, v., i. Or surprising a boor's ken for GRUNTING-CHEATS ? Or cackling-cheats ?

GRUNTING-PECK, *subs.* (old).—Pork or bacon.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew* GRUNTING-PECK, s.v., pork.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1836. SMITH, *Individual*. 'The Thieves' Chant.' But dearer to me Sue's kisses far Than GRUNTING PECK or other grub are.

GRUTS, *subs.* (common).—Tea ; For synonyms, see SCANDAL-BROTH.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

G. T. T. GONE TO TEXAS, *phr.* (American).—Absconded. [Moonshining gentry used to mark G. T. T. on the doors of their abandoned dwellings as a consolation for inquiring creditors.] Fr., *aller en Belgique*. For synonyms, see SWARTWORT.

1835. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 5 S., ch. viii. Before this misfortin' came I used to do a considerable smart chance of business ; but now it's time for me to cut dirt, and leave the country. I believe I must hang out the G. T. T. sign.—'Why, what the plague is that?' says I. 'GONE TO TEXAS,' said he.'

GUAGE.—See GAGE.

GUBBINS, *subs.* (old).—Fish-offal.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionarie*, *q.v.*

GUDGEON, *subs.* (old).—i. A bait ; an allurement. Hence, TO GUDGEON (or TO SWALLOW A GUDGEON) = to be extremely credulous or gullible.

1593. SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, i., i. But fish not with this melancholy bait, For this fool's GUDGEON, this opinion.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, *Bersela*, s.v. To swallow a GUDGEON . . . to believe any tale.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, GUDGEON, s.v. To swallow the bait, or fall into a trap, from the fish of that name which is easily taken.

1892. *National Observer*, 23 July, vii., 235. It has educated Hodge into an increased readiness to gorge any GUDGEON that may be offered him.

2. (colloquial).—An easy dupe ; a BUFFLE (*q.v.*).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

GUERRILLA, *subs.* (American sharpers').—See quot.



1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. This name is applied by gamblers to fellows who skin suckers when and where they can, who do not like the professional gamblers, but try to beat them, sometimes inform on them, and tell the suckers that they have been cheated.

**GUFF**, *subs.* (common).—Humbug; bluff; jabber. For synonyms, *see* GAMMON.

1880. *Sportsman*, 19 Jan. Hereafter he can have the newspapers to himself, and with that windbag Mitchell fill them with GUFF and nonsense, but I won't notice them.

**GUFFY**, *subs.* (nautical).—A soldier. For synonyms, *see* MUDCRUSHER.

**GUIDERS**, *subs.* (general).—1. Reins; RIBBONS (*q.v.*).

2. (common).—Sinews; LEADERS (*q.v.*).

**GUINEA**. A GUINEA TO A GOOSEBERRY, *phr.* (sporting).—Long odds. *See* LOMBARD STREET TO A CHINA ORANGE.

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *Post to Finish*, ch. vii. What! old Writson against Sam Pearson? Why, it's a GUINEA TO A GOOSEBERRY on Sam!

**GUINEA - DROPPER**, *subs.* (old).—A sharper. Specifically one who let drop counterfeit guineas in collusion with a GOLD-FINDER (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* ROOK.

1712. GAY, *Trivia*, iii., 249. Who now the GUINEA DROPPER's bait regards, Tricked by the sharper's dice or juggler's cards.

**GUINEA - HEN**, *subs.* (old).—A courtesan. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, i., 3. Ere I would say I would drown myself for the love of a GUINEA-HEN, I would change my humanity with a baboon.

1630. GLAPTHORNE, *Albertus Wallenstein*. Yonder's the cock o' the game About to tread yon GUINEA-HEN, they're billing.

**GUINEA-PIG**, *subs.* (old).—1. A general term of reproach.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Roderick Random*, xxiv. A good seaman he is, as ever stepp'd on forecastle—none of your GUINEA-PIGS,—nor your freshwater, wishy-washy, fair-weather fowls.

2. (old).—Any one whose nominal fee for professional services is a guinea: as vets., special jurymen, etc. Now mainly restricted to clergymen acting as deputies, and (in contempt) to directors of public companies. Hence GUINEA-TRADE = professional services of any kind.

1821. COOMBE, *Dr. Syntax*, Tour III., c. iv. 'Oh, oh,' cried Pat, 'how my hand itches, Thou GUINEA-PIG [a 'vet.'], in boots and breeches, to trounce thee well.'

1871. *Temple Bar*, vol. xxxi., p. 320. A much more significant term is that of GUINEA PIGS, the pleasant name for those gentlemen of more rank than means, who hire themselves out as directors of public companies, and who have a guinea and a copious lunch when they attend board meetings.

1880. *Church Review*, 2 Jan. GUINEA PIGS . . . are, for the most part, unattached or roving parsons, who will take any brother cleric's duty for the moderate remuneration of one guinea.

1883. *Saturday Review*, 25 Aug., p. 246, c. 2. A country parson was suddenly attacked with diphtheria, late in the week. Recourse was had in vain to the neighbours, and it was decided at last to telegraph to London for a GUINEA PIG.

1884. *Echo*, 19 May, p. 1, c. 5. Let us apply the principle further, and imagine . . . limited liability swindlers tried by a jury of GUINEA-PIGS and company promoters.

1884. *Graphic*, 29 Nov., p. 562, c. 3. And the GUINEA-PIG, whose name is on a dozen different Boards, is justly regarded with suspicion.

1886. *Chambers's Jour.*, 24 Apr., p. 258. In order to be considered of any value as Director of a Company, a GUINEA-PIG ought to have a handle to his name.

1887. PAYN, *Glow Worm Tales*. 'A Failure of Justice.' He is best known to the public as a GUINEA-PIG, from his habit of sitting at boards and receiving for it that nominal remuneration, though in his case it stands for a much larger sum.

1889. DRAGE, *Cyril*, vii. The rector has, as usual, got the gout, and we live under a *régime* . . . . of GUINEA-PIGS.

1890. *Standard*, 26 June, p. 5, c. 4. The least attempt to saddle responsibility for misleading statements upon Boards of Directors would drive prudent, 'respectable' men out of what is vulgarly called the GUINEA-PIG business.

### 3. (nautical).—See quot.

1840. MARRYAT, *Poor Jack*, ch. xxvi. While Bramble was questioned by the captain and passengers, I was attacked by the midshipmen, or GUINEA-PIGS as they are called.

**GUISE'S GEESE**, *subs. phr.* (military).—The Sixth Foot or 'Saucy Sixth.' [From its Colonel's name, 1735-63.]

**GUIVER**, *subs.* (theatrical).—(1) Flat-tery, and (2) ARTFULNESS (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see SOFT SOAP.

*Adj.* (common). — Smart; fashionable; ON IT (*q.v.*). GUIVER LAD = a low-class dandy; also an ARTFUL MEMBER (*q.v.*).

a. 1866. VANCE, *Chickaleary Cove*. The stock around my squeeze of a GUIVER colour see.

*Verb* (sporting). — To humbug; TO FOOL ABOUT (*q.v.*); to show off.

1891. *Sporting Life*, 25 Mar. He goes into a ring to *fight* his man, not to spar and look pretty, and run, and dodge, and GUIVER.

**GULF**, *subs.* (old).—I. The throat; also the maw. For synonyms, see GUTTER-ALLEY.

1579. SPENCER, *Shepheard's Calendar*, Sept. That with many a lamb had glutted his GULF.

2. (Cambridge Univ.).—The bottom of a list of 'passes,' with the names of those who only just succeed in getting their degree.

1852. BRISTED, *Five Years in an English University*, p. 205. Some ten or fifteen men just on the line, not bad enough to be plucked, or good enough to be placed, are put into the GULF, as it is popularly called (the examiners' phrase is 'degrees allowed'), and have their degrees given them, but are not printed in the calendar.

3. (Oxford Univ.).—A man who, going in for honours, only gets ~~to~~ pass.

*Verb* (Cambridge Univ.).—To place in the GULF, *subs.*, sense 2 (*q.v.*); TO BE GULFED = to be on such a list. [Men so placed were not eligible for the Classical Tripos]. Cf., PLUCK and PLOUGH.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verdant Green*, pt. iii., p. 89. I am not going to let them GULPH me a second time.

1863. H. KINGSLEY, *Austin Elliot*, p. 123. The good Professor scolded, predicted that they would all be either GULFED or ploughed.

1865. *Sporting Gaz.*, 1 Apr. A man who was GULFED for mathematical honours was certainly, in olden time, unable to enter for the classical examination; but though the arrangement is altered, the term is *not* obsolete. A man who is GULFED is considered to know enough mathematics for an ordinary degree, but not enough to be allowed his degree in mathematics only; he is consequently obliged to pass in all the ordinary subjects (except mathematics) for the 'poll,' before taking his degree.

1876. TREVELYAN, *Life of Macaulay* (1884), ch. ii., p. 61. When the Tripos of 1822 made its appearance, his name did not grace the list. In short . . . Macaulay was GULFED.

1852. BRISTED, *Five Years in an English University*, p. 297. I discovered that my name was nowhere to be found—that I was GULFED.

**GULF-SPIN**, *subs.* (American cadet).

—A rascal ; a worthless fellow ;  
A BEAT (*q.v.*) a SHYSTER (*q.v.*).

**GULL**, *subs.* (old, now recognised).

—I. A ninny. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1593. SIR J. DAVIES, *Book of Epigrams*. A GULL is he who feares a velvet gowne, And when a wench is brave dares not speak to her ; A GULL is he which travsereth the towne, And is for marriage known a common wooer ; A GULL is he, which while he proudly weares A silver-hilted rapier by his side. Indures the lye and knockes about the eares, While in his sheath his sleeping sword doth bide. But to define a GULL in termes precise—A GULL is he which *seems*, and is *not*, wise.

1598. FLORIO, *A World of Wordes*, *passim*.

1609. JONSON, *Case is Altered*, iv., 3. *Jun.* Tut, thou art a goose to be Cupid's GULL.

1609. SHAKSPEARE, *Timon of Athens*. Lord Timon will be left a naked GULL. Which flashes now a phoenix.

1614. OVERBURY, *Characters*. 'A Roaring Boy.' He cheats young GULLS that are newly come to town.

1618. ROWLANDS, *Night Raven*, p. 28 (H. C. Rept., 1872). I know the houses where base cheaters vse, And note what GULLS (to worke vpon) they chuse.

1661. BROME, *Poems*, 'The Cure of Care.' Those GULLS that by scraping and toiling.

1818. S. E. FERRIER, *Marriage*, ch. li. The poor GULL was caught, and is now, I really believe, as much in love as it is in the nature of a stupid man to be.

1850. D. JERROLD, *The Catshaw*, Act i. Pshaw ! some rascal that lives on simpletons and GULLS.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 231. I was a dweller under roofs ; the GULL of that which we call civilisation.

2. (old).—A cheat ; a fraud ; a trick.

1600. SHAKSPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, ii., 3. I should think this a GULL, but that the white-bearded fellow speaks it.

1611. COTGRAVE, *Dictionary*, *q.v.*

3. (Oxford Univ.).—A swindler ; a trickster. *Cf.*, GULL-CATCHER, of which it is probably an abbreviation.

1825. *The English Spy*, v. I., p. 161. 'You'll excuse me, sir, but as you are *fresh*, take care to avoid the GULLS.' 'I never understood that GULLS were birds of prey,' said I. 'Only in Oxford, sir, and here, I assure you, they bite like hawks.'

*Verb* (old : now recognised).—

To cheat ; to dupe ; to victimise ;  
TO TAKE IN (*q.v.*) in any fashion and to any purpose.

1596. JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, v. This is a mere trick, a device, you are GULLED in this most grossly.

1602. SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii., 3. *Mar.* For Monsieur Maluolio, let me alone with him ; If I do not GULL him into a nayword, and make him a common recreation, do not thinke I haue witte enough to lye straight in my bed ; I know I can do it.

1607. ROWLANDS, *Diogenes, his Lanthorne*, p. 11 (H. C. Rept. 1873). He promist me good stuffe *truly*, a great penny-worth *indeed*, and verily did GULL me.

1610. JONSON, *Alchemist*, v., 2. Hast thou GULLED her of her jewels or her bracelets ?

1639. SELDEN, *Table Talk*, p. 98 (Arber's ed.). Presbyters have the greatest power of any Clergy in the world, and GULL the Laity most.

1778. *Sketches for Tabernacle-Frames*, p. 25, *note*. These fanatica Preachers frequently squeeze out Tears to GULL their Audience.



1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., 472. It's generally the lower order that he GULLS.

1802. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Deacon Brodie*, ix. Pay your debts, and GULL the world a little longer.

Hence GULLIBLE, *adj.*, = easily duped.

1841. THACKERAY, *Character Sketches* 'Fashionable Authoress.' And, gulled themselves, gull the most GULLABLE of publics.

**GULLAGE**, *subs.* (old colloquial).—The act of trickery; the state of being gulled.

1605. B. JONSON, *Volpone*, v., 5. Had you no quirk To avoid GULLAGE, sir, by such a creature?

1611. CHAPMAN, *May Day*, Act II., p. 284 (*Plays*, 1874). For procuring you the dear GULLAGE of my sweetheart, Mistress Franceschina.

**GULL-CATCHER** (or **GULLER**, **GULL-SHARPER**, etc.), *subs.* (old).—A trickster; a cheat. See **GULL**, senses I and 3.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii., 5. Here comes my noble GULL-CATCHER.

**GULLERY**, *subs.* (old colloquial).—Dupery; fraud; a cheat's device. Cf., **GULLAGE**.

1596. JONSON, *Every Man in His Humour*, iii., 2. Your Balsamum and your St. John's wort are all mere GULLERIES and trash to it.

1608. JOHN DAY, *Humour out of Breath*, Act iv., Sc. 3. I am gulled, palpably gulled . . . and mine owne GULLERY grieves me not half so much as the Dukes displeasure.

1630. TAYLOR, *Works*. Nevertheless, whosoever will but looke into the lying legend of golden GULLERY, there they shall finde that the poore seduced ignorant Romanists doe imitate all the idolatrous fornication of the heathen pagans and infidels.

1633. *Ile of Guls*. Upon you both, so, so, so, how greedily their inventions like beagles follow the sent of their owne GULLERY, yet these are no fooles, God forbid, not they.

1633. MARMION, *Fine Companion. Lit.* What more GULLERIES yet? they have cosend mee of my daughters, I hope they will cheate me of my wife too: have you any more of these tricks to shew, ha?

1689. SELDEN, *Table Talk*, p. 38 (Arber's ed.). And how can it be proved, that ever any man reveal'd Confession, when there is no Witness? And no man can be Witness in his own cause. A meer GULLERY.

1819. H. MORE, *Defence of Moral Cabbala*, ch. iii. The sweet deception and GULLERY of their own corrupted fancy.

1821. SCOTT, *Kenilworth*, ch. xx. Do you think, because I have good-naturedly purchased your trumpery goods at your roguish prices, that you may put any GULLERY you will on me?

**GULLET**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—The throat. For synonyms, see **GUTTER-ALLEY**.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*, 12, 477. [Quoted in *Ency. Dict.*] Out of the harde bones knocken they The mary, for they casten nought away, That may go thurgh the GULLET soft and sote.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, GULLET, s.v. A Derisory Term for the Throat, from *Gula*.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. 15. So he puts a pistol to his mouth, and he fires it down his GULLET.

1893. *National Observer*, x. 168. Through sympathetic GULLETS.

**GULL-FINCH**, *subs.* (old). — A simpleton; a fool. For synonyms, see **BUFFLE** and **CAB-BAGE-HEAD**.

1630. TAYLOR, *Works*. For 'tis concluded 'mongst the wizards all, To make thee master of GUL-FINCHES hall.

**GULL-GROPER**, *subs.* (old). — A gamesters' money-lender.

1609. DEKKER, *Lanthorne and Candle-light*. The GUL-GROPER is commonly an old money-monger, who having travaill through all the follies of the world in his youth, knows them well, and shunnes them in his age, his whole felicitie being to fill his bags with golde and silver.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, GULL-GROPER, s.v. A Bystander that Lends Money to the Gamesters.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GULLY**, *subs.* (common).—1. The throat. For synonyms, *see* GUTTER-ALLEY.

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

3. (old and Scots').—A knife. For synonyms, *see* CHIVE.

1653. URQUHART, *Rabelais*, bk. I., ch. xxvii. Fair GULLIES which are little haulch-backed demi-knives.

1785. BURNS, *Death and Dr. Horn-book*. I red ye weel, tak care o' skaith, See, there's a GULLY.

1789. BURNS, *Address to Captain Grose*. The knife that nickit Abel's craig, He'll prove ye fully It was a faulding jocteleg, Or lang-kail GULLY.

*Verb* (common).—To GULL (*q.v.*); to dupe; to swindle. For synonyms, *see* STICK.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. v. I rode about and speechified, and everybody GULLIED.

**GULLY-FLUFF**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Pocket-filth; BEGGAR'S VELVET (*q.v.*). Also FLUE (*q.v.*).

**GULLY-GUT**, *subs.* and *adj.* (common).—A glutton. For synonyms, *see* STODGER.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Crapulatore*, a surfeiter; a gormand; a glutton; a GULLIE-GUT.

1672. LESTRANGE, *Fables*. A GULLI-GUT friar.

**GULLY-HOLE** (or **GULLY**), *subs.* (common).—1. The throat, or gullet. For synonyms, *see* GUTTER-ALLEY.

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**GULLY-RAKER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—1. The *penis*; and (2) a wench. For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK, PRICK, and MOLROWER.

2. (Australian). A cattle-whip; a cattle-thief.

1881. A. C. GRANT, *Bush Life in Queensland* . . . following up his admonition by a sweeping cut of his GULLY-RAKER, and a report like a musket-shot.

**GULPIN**, *subs.* (common).—A simpleton; a GAPESEED (*q.v.*). Fr., *un gobemouche*; *une éponge*. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1886. W. BESANT, *World Went Very Well Then*, ch. xxix. But Jack persisted, and I rose too. 'Go then!' the Admiral roared, with a great oath. 'Go then, for a brace of GULPINS!'

**GULPY**, *adj.* (common).—Easily duped.

**GULSH**. To HOLD ONE'S GULSH, *verb. phr.* (provincial).—To hold one's tongue; to keep quiet.

**GUM**, *subs.* (old).—1. Chatter; talk; JAW (*q.v.*). Also abuse.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. xiv. There's no occasion to bowse out so much unnecessary GUM.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Come let us have no more of your GUM.

1824. R. B. PEAKE, *Americans Abroad*, i., 1. *Dou*. Come, none of your GUM—now you are but an underlin', tho' you are so uppish and twistical—where's the chair?

2. (American).—A trick; a piece of duper; a SELL (*q.v.*). Also GUMMATION.

3. (American).—A golosh; an india-rubber overshoe. [Short for 'gum-shoes.']

1872. *Morning Post*, 9 Jan. For-bidding him again to cross her threshold or to leave his GUM-SHOES in her hall.

*Verb* (common).—To cheat; to TAKE IN (*q.v.*), to ROAST (*q.v.*) or quiz. For synonyms, *see* GAMMON.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, 6 p.m., par. I. I began to think either that he was quizzing me—GUMMING is the proper Transatlantic colloquialism, I think.

1875. 'American English' in *Chamb. Journal*, 25 Sept., p. 611. To 'gum-tree' is to elude, to cheat [from opossum], and this again is shortened into 'to gum,' as the phrase, 'Now don't you try to GUM me.'

OLD MOTHER GUM, *subs. phr.* (common).—An old woman: in derision.

BY GUM! *intj.* (common).—A mild oath. For synonyms, see OATHS.

1860. HALIBURTON ('Sam Slick'), *The Season Ticket*, No. ix. BY GUM, Squire Shogog, we have had the greatest bobbery of a shindy in our carriage you ever knowed in all our born days.

BLESS YOUR (or HIS, HER, ITS, etc.) GUMS, *phr.* (common).—A piece of banter: a facetious way of saying 'Bless your soul!'

GUMMAGY, *adj.* (common).—Snarling; of a scolding habit.

GUMMED, *adj.* (billiards).—Said of a ball close to the cushion.

GUMMY, *subs.* (common).—I. A toothless person; i.e., with nothing but gums to show. Generally, OLD GUMMY.

2. (thieves').—Medicine. Also GUMMY-STUFF.—MATSELL.

3. (common).—A dullard; a fool. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

*Adj.* (common).—Puffed; swollen; clumsy.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. GUMMEY, clumsy, particularly applied to the ancles of men, or women, and the legs of horses.

TO FEEL GUMMY, *verb. phr.* (University).—To perspire.

GUMP, *subs.* (common).—A dolt. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, bk. II., ch. xv. He's . . . sort of a nateral too, I guess; rather a GUMP, hey?

GUMPTION, *subs.* (colloquial).—Cleverness; understanding; NOUS (*q.v.*). Also RUM GUMPTION.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GUMPTION, or RUM GUMPTION, s.v., docility, comprehension, capacity.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*, s.v. 'Gawm.' *Gawm*, to understand; I dinna gawm ye, I don't understand you. Hence, possibly, gawmition, or GUMPTION, understanding.

1834. *Atlantic Club-book*, I., 33. D'ye think I'm a fellow of no more GUMPTION than that?

1843. *Comic Almanack*. Poor beasts, 'tis very clear, To any one possess'd of GUMPTION, That if they'd not come over here, They'd have been carried off by home consumption.

1853. LYTTON, *My Novel*, bk. IV., ch. xii. GUMPTION—it means cleverness.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 June, p. 3, c. 2. But poor people—leastways, those that have got any GUMPTION—know better than that.

1890. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S., x., 393. As familiar as the Greek word nous for what . . . is known . . . as GUMPTION.

GUMPTIOUS, *adj.* (colloquial).—Shrewd; intelligent; vain.

1853. LYTTON, *My Novel*, bk. IV., ch. xii. *Landlord*. There's gumption and GUMPTIOUS! Gumption is knowing, but when I say that sum un is GUMPTIOUS, I mean—though that's more vulgar like—sum un who does not think small beer of hisself. You take me, sir?

GUM-SMASHER (or TICKLER), *subs.* (common).—A dentist. For synonyms, see SNAG-CATCHER.

GUM-SUCK, *verb.* (American).—To flatter; to humbug; to dupe. For synonyms, see GAMMON.



**GUM-SUCKER**, *subs.* (Australian).—

1. See quot. Cf., CORN-STALK.

1887. *All the Year Round*, 30 July, p. 67. A GUM-SUCKER is a native of Tasmania, and owes his elegant nickname to the abundance of gum-trees in the Tasmanian forests.

2. (common).—A fool. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

**GUM-TICKLER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—

1. A drink. Specifically, DROP or SHORT, or a dram. For synonyms, see GO.

1814. *Quarterly Review*, vol. X., p. 521. A gill, taken fasting, is called a GUM-TICKLER.1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, bk. IV., ch. iii. I prefer to take it in the form of a GUM-TICKLER.

2. See GUM-SMASHER.

**GUM-TREE**. TO BE UP A GUM-TREE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To be on one's last legs; at the end of one's rope. 'He has seen his last GUM-TREE'=It is all up with him.**GUN**, *subs.* (old).—1. A lie. *New Cant. Dict.*, 1725. For synonyms, see WHOPPER.2. (common).—A thief; specifically, a MAGSMAN (*q.v.*) or street-artist. Also GUN-SMITH and GUNNER. GUNNING=thieving. [An abbreviation of GONOF (*q.v.*)] See AREA-SNEAK and THIEVES.1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, bk. II., ch. i., p. 70. I tell you you ain't a-going to make a GUN (thief) of this here young flat.1868. *Temple Bar*, xxv., 213. . . . returned to his old trade of GUNSMITH, GUNNING being the slang term for thieving, or going on the cross.1882. *Cornhill Mag.*, p. 649. Flats graft for GUNS.1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*. GUNNERS and grasshoppers sneak about watching their opportunities.

3. (American).—A revolver. For synonyms, see MEAT-IN-THE POT.

4. (Irish).—A toddy glass. See IN THE GUN.

*Verb* (American).—1. To consider with attention.1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. GUNNED. The copper GUNNED me as if he was fly to my mug.

2. (American).—To strive hard; to make a violent effort: e.g., to GUN A STOCK = to use every means to produce a 'break'; when supplies are heavy and holders would be unable to resist.

IN THE GUN, *phr.* (old).—Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. GUN, s.v., he's IN THE GUN, he is drunk, perhaps from an allusion to a vessel called a GUN, used for ale in the universities.

SON OF A GUN. See SON.

SURE AS A GUN, *phr.* (common).—Quite certain; inevitable.1633. JONSON, *Tale of a Tub*, ii., 1. 'Tis right; he has spoke as TRUE AS A GUN, believe it.1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*.1694. CONGREVE, *Double Dealer*, v., 20. All turned topsy-turvy, as SURE AS A GUN.1720. GAY, *New Song of New Similes*. SURE AS A GUN she'll drop a tear.1749. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk. xviii., ch. ix. AS SURE AS A GUN I have hit o' the very right o't.1759. STERNE, *Tristram Shandy*, vol. vi., ch. xxvi. Think ye not that, in striking these *in*,—he might, peradventure, strike something *out*? as SURE AS A GUN.1825. EGAN, *Life of an Actor*, iv. By gum! he roared out, sir, AS SURE AS A GUN.d. 1842. FATHER PROUT, *Reliques*, I. 19. 'Vert-Vert, the Parrot.' Scared at the sound,—'SURE AS A GUN, The bird's a demon!' cried the nun.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. lviii. In every party of the nobility his name's down as SURE AS A GUN.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 141. Nobbed, SURE AS A GUN!

1892. MANVILLE FENN, *New Mistress*, xxxv. They were both down there about that school-money Betsey, as SURE AS A GUN.

**GUNDIGUTS**, *subs.* (common).—A fat man; a FORTY GUTS (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GUNNER'S DAUGHTER**. To KISS (or MARRY) THE GUNNER'S DAUGHTER, *verb. phr.* (nautical). To be flogged. [GUNNER'S DAUGHTER = the gun to which boys were lashed for punishment.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xxxii. I don't know what officers are made of now-a-days. I'll marry some of you young gentlemen to the GUNNER'S DAUGHTER before long. Quarter-deck s no better than a bear-garden.

**GUNPOWDER**, *subs.* (old).—An old woman.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GUNTER**.—See COCKER.

**GUP**, *subs.* (Anglo-Indian).—Gossip; scandal.

1868. FLORENCE MARRYATT, *Gup*, xix. With regard to my title . . . Gup is the Hindustani for 'Gossip.' *Voilà tout!*

1883. HAWLEY SMART, *Hard Lines*, ch. xxix. Our Eastern empire is much addicted to what they term GUP, whereby they mean gossip, scandal, or by whatever other equivalent the taking away of one's neighbours' characters may be designated.

To BE A GUP, *verb. phr.* (American).—To be easy to take or steal.

**GURTSEY**, *subs.* (American Cadet).—A fat man; a PODGE (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see FORTY-GUTS.

**GUSH**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The expression of affected or extravagant sentiment.

1883. *Saturday Review*, 3 Feb., p. 148, c. 2. Mr. Picton's style is pleasant and easy, as long as he allows himself to be natural, and does not fall into GUSH.

1886. *Church Times*, 17 Sep. Not mere GUSH or oratorical flip-flap.

*Verb* (colloquial).—To overflow with extravagant or affected sentiment.

1883. MISS BRADDON, *Golden Calf*, ch. vii. 'Yes, and you saw much of each other, and you became heart-friends,' GUSHED Miss Wolf, beaming benevolently at Brian.

**GUSHER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A practitioner of GUSH (*q.v.*). Also GUSHINGTON.

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. vi., p. 66 (1873). The enthusiastic GUSHER who flings his or herself upon our necks, and insists upon sharing our sorrow.

1882. MISS BRADDON, *Mount Royal*, ch. viii. 'But, surely there is nothing improper in the play, dear Lady Cumber-bridge,' exclaimed the eldest GUSHER, too long in society to shrink from sifting any question of that kind.

**GUSHING**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Extravagant; affected or irrational in expression; demonstratively affectionate. Also GUSHINGLY.

1864. 'The Campaigner' (No. XVI.), in *Fraser's Mag.*, p. 627. Donald did not belong to what, in the slang of translated Cockneys, is called the GUSHING School.

1864. *Punch's Almanack*, 'Our Growling Bard.' Some, I admit, are Milington Dears, As GUSHING ladies say, and some are Muffs.

1872. *Sunday Times*, 18 Aug. This however, was no surprise to the plaintiff, it having been understood from the first that the parties being past the GUSHING age the letters between them should be of a business character.

1880. OUIDA, *Moths*, ch. viii. Your heroics count for nothing. All girls of sixteen are GUSHING and silly.

1883. HARGRAVE JENNINGS, quoted in *Saturday Review*, 28 Apr., p. 536, c. 1. Women are not the GUSHINGLY credulous creatures that man in his constant condescension and in his appreciation of himself would deem.

1884. F. ANSTEY, *Giant's Robe*, ch. xx. 'It's not precisely GUSHING,' he said to himself, 'but she couldn't very well say more just yet.'

**GUSSET**, *subs.* (common).—Generic for the female sex. Thus, BROTHER (or KNIGHT, or SQUIRE) OF THE GUSSET = a pimp; GUSSETTING = wenching; GUSSETEER = a wench; etc.

GUSSET OF THE ARSE, *subs. phr.* (common).—The inside edge of the buttocks.

d. 1796. BURNS, *Merry Muses*, pp. 99-100. An' he grippit her fast by the GUSSET OF HER ARSE.

**GUT**, *subs.* (vulgar).—The vice or habit of gluttony; the belly [as opposed to the GROIN (*g.v.*).]

2. *in. pl.* (common).—The stomach and intestines.

1609. DEKKER, *Gul's Horne-Booke*, chap. ii. The Neapolitan will (like DERICK, the hangman) embrace you with one arme, and rip your GUTS with the other.

1640. RAWLINS, *The Rebellion*, iii. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 48). Thou hast a GUT could swallow a peck loaf.

1661. BROME, *Poems*, 'A Satire on the Rebellion.' The grumbling GUTS, the belly of the State.

1713. BENTLEY, *On Free Thinking*, sect. 53. What then was our writer's soul? Was it brain or GUTS?

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, bk. iv., c. 1. But so it was that the knife, missing these noble parts (the noblest of many) THE GUTS, perforated only the hollow of his belly.

1787. BURNS, *Death and Dr. Horn-book*, st. 27. A ceuntra Laird had ta'n the batts, Or some curmurring in his GUTS.

3. *in. pl.* (old).—A fat man; a FORTY - GUTS (*g.v.*). Also GUTS - AND - GARBAGE. MORE GUTS (also MORE BALLS) THAN BRAINS = a fool.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry IV.*, pt. 1, ii., 2. Peace, ye fat-GUTS.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. GUTTS, a very fat gross Person.

4. (artists' and colloquial).—Spirit; quality; a touch of force, or energy, or fire: *e.g.*, a picture, a book, an actor. WITH GUTS = a strong thing. Put your GUTS into it (aquatic) = Row the very best you can. He (or it) has NO GUTS in him (or it) = He (or it) is a COMMON ROTTER (*g.v.*). Hence, GUTSY, *adj.* = having GUTS, and GUTSINESS, *subs.* = the condition of being GUTSY.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Conversation*, I. The fellow's well enough if he had any GUTS in his brain.

1893. *Pall Mall Budget*. No. 1292 (June 29), 1906. The body of the cigar, or what might vulgarly be called the GUTS.

*Verb* (vulgar).—1. To plunder, or take out all or most of the contents (*i.e.*, intestines) of a place or thing; to drain; to 'clean out': *e.g.*, TO GUT A HOUSE (thieves') = to rifle it; TO GUT AN OYSTER = to eat it; TO GUT A BOOK = to empty it of interesting matter; TO GUT A QUART POT = to drain at a draught. Whence, GUTTED = dead-broke.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 1. Whether diddling your subjects or GUTTING their jobs.

1849-61. MACAULAY, *Hist. of England*. The king's printing-house . . . was, to use a coarse metaphor, which then for the first time came into fashion, completely GUTTED.



1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 373. Well, we've got the GUTS out of you!

2. (schools').—To eat hard, fast, and badly. For synonyms, see WOLF.

TO FRET ONE'S GUTS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To worry.

TO HAVE PLENTY OF GUTS BUT NO BOWELS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be unfeeling, hard, merciless.

MY GREAT GUTS ARE READY TO EAT MY LITTLE ONES, *phr.* (old).—'I am very hungry.' Also, MY GUTS BEGIN TO THINK MY THROAT'S CUT; MY GUTS CURSE MY TEETH; and MY GUTS CHIME TWELVE.—GROSE.

NOT FIT TO CARRY GUTS TO A BEAR, *phr.* (common).—To be worthless; absolutely unmannerly; UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD (*q.v.*).

**GUT-ENTRANCE**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. Also FRONT-GUT. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**GUT-FOUNDERED**, *adj.* (old).—Exceedingly hungry.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**GUT-PUDDING**, *subs.* (old).—A sausage. — *Nomenclator* (1696). For synonyms, see MYSTERIES.

**GUT-PULLER**, *subs.* (common).—A poulterer; a CHICKEN-BUTCHER (*q.v.*).

**GUT-SCRAPER**, *subs.* (common).—A fiddler. Also CATGUT SCRAPER, and TORMENTOR OF CATGUT. For synonyms, see ROSIN-THE-BOW.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, ii, 218. 'A Song' etc. Strike up, drowsie GUT SCRAPERS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1785. BURNS, *Jolly Beggars*. Her charms had struck a sturdy Caird, As weel's a poor GUT-SCRAPER.

1834. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, p. 192 (ed. 1864). Make ready there, you GUT-SCRAPERS, you shawm-shavers; I'll put your lungs in play for you presently. In the mean time—charge, pals, charge—a toast, a toast!

1834. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xxxi. 'You may save yourself the trouble, you dingy GUT-SCRAPER,' replied O'Brien [addressing a fiddler].

**GUT-STICK**, *subs.* (venery).—The *penis*. For synonyms, see CREAM-STICK and PRICK. TO HAVE A BIT (or A TASTE) OF THE GUT-STICK = to copulate (of women only).

**GUT-STICKER**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—A sodomite. Also GUT-FUCKER and GUT-MONGER. For synonyms, see USHER.

**GUTTER**, *subs.* (American thieves').—1. Porter.—MATSELL. [Probably a corruption of GATTER (*q.v.*).]

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

*Verb* (Winchester College).—To fall in the water flat on the stomach. Fr., *piquer un plat-ventre*.

TO LAP THE GUTTER, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be in the last stage of intoxication. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

CARRY ME OUT AND LEAVE ME IN THE GUTTER, *phr.* (American).—See CARRY ME OUT.

**GUTTER-ALLEY** (or **LANE**), *subs.* (common).—The throat. ALL GOES DOWN GUTTER-LANE = 'He spends all on his stomach.'

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — Beer Street; common sewer; drain; funnel; Gin Lane; gulf; gullet; gully-hole; gutter; Holloway; Peck Alley; Red Lane; the Red Sea; Spew Alley; swallow; thrapple; throttle; whistle.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *La carafe* (tramps'); *la creuse* (popular = Holloway); *le corridor*; *le cornet* (popular); *le couloir*; *le lampas*; *la goule* (popular); *le gosse* (popular: an abbreviation of *gossier*: also *gésier*); *la gargoine* (thieves'); *la gargarousse* (thieves' = Old Gargles); *le four* (popular = the oven); *le fanal* (popular); *l'entonnoir* (popular = the funnel); *l'avaloir* (thieves' = the swallow).

GERMAN SYNONYM.—*Kollert* (Hanoverian).

SPANISH SYNONYM. — *La gorja*.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*, g. (1811), p. 81. All goeth down GUTTER LANE. That is, the throat. This proverb is applicable to those who spend all their substance in eating and drinking.

2. (common).—A urinal. For synonyms, see **PISSING-POST**.

**GUTTER-BLOOD**, *subs.* (common).—

1. See quot. Also (2) a vulgarian; an upstart from the rabble.

1822. SCOTT, *The Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. v. In rushed a thorough Edinburgh GUTTERBLOOD—a ragged rascal.

**GUTTER - CHAUNTER**, *subs.* (common).—A street singer.

**GUTTER-HOTEL**, *subs.* (tramps').—The open air. For synonyms, see **HEDGE-SQUARE**.

**GUTTER-LITERATURE**. See **BLOOD-AND-THUNDER**, and **AWFUL**.

**GUTTER-MASTER**, *subs.* (old).—A term of reproach.

1607. MARSTON, *What You Will*, iii, 1. And now my soule is skipt into a per-fumer, a GUTTERMASTER.

**GUTTER-PROWLER**, *subs.* (thieves').—A street thief. For synonyms, see **AREA-SNEAK** and **THIEVES**.

**GUTTER-SNIPE**, *subs.* (common).—1. A street arab. Also **GUTTER-SLUSH**. For synonyms, see **MUD-LARK**.

2. (American printers').—A poster for the kerb.

3. (American Commercial).—An 'outside' broker who does business chiefly in the street; a **KERBSTONE BROKER** (*q.v.*). Fr., *un loup-cervier*.

**GUTTIE**, *subs.* (golfers') — 1. A gutta-percha ball.

2. (colloquial).—A glutton.—For synonyms, see **STODGER**.

3. (colloquial). — A **FORTY-GUTS**, which see for synonyms.

**GUTTLE**, *verb.* (vulgar). — To eat greedily; to **GORMANDIZE** (*q.v.*). Also to drink: *e.g.*, TO GUTTLE A PINT = to take off, or do, a pint; 'He's been GUTTLING swipes' = he's been drinking beer. Hence GUTTLER = a coarse, or greedy eater; a sturdy pot-companion: a **GORGER** (*q.v.*). Cf., Thackeray's *Book of Snobs* for GUTTLEBURY Fair. See **GUZZLE**.

1672. LESTRANGE, *Fables*, p. 260. A jolly GUTTLING priest.

**GUTTLE-SHOP**, *subs.* (Rugby).—A pastry-cook's; a TUCK-SHOP (*q.v.*).

**GU**, *subs.* (common).—An abbreviation of GOVERNOR (*q.v.*).

**GUY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. A Fifth of November effigy; whence (2) an ill-dressed person. As in the old street cry, 'Hollo, boys, there goes another GUY! (an abbreviation of Guy Fawkes)=a figure of fun; a fright.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Caution; Captain Queer-nabs; chivey; comic bird; ragamuffin; sight.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. *Un paquet* (popular), *une hallebarde* (popular = a clothes-prop; *un nippe-mal* (popular); *une bécasse* (=a gaby); *un carnavale* (popular = a figure of fun).

1806. W. BURRELL, in C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence* (1888), i., 277. A month ago there was neither shape nor make in use. . . . no GUY ever matched me.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsky Legends*. 'The Nurse's Story.' Did you see her, in short, that mud-hovel within, With her knees to her nose, and her nose to her chin, Leering up with that queer, indescribable grin, You'd lift up your hands in amazement and cry, 'Well!—I never did see such a regular GUY!'

1858. G. ELIOT, *Janet's Repentance*, ch. vi. Ned Phipps . . . whispered that he thought the Bishop was a GUY, and I certainly remember thinking that Mr. Pendergast looked much more dignified with his plain white surplice and black hair.

1871. *Morning Advertiser*, 26 Jan. There is no imperative reason why a constable should be a GUY.

3. (common).—A dark lantern. [Obviously a reminiscence of the Gunpowder Plot].

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. GUY, s.v. Stow the GUY, conceal the lantern.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

4. (streets).—A jaunt; an expedition.

1889. *Sporting Times*, 3 Aug., p. 5, c. 5. There *was* a gee, there *was* a buggy, but there *wasn't* a punctual Pitcher. So a cheerful GUY to Waterloo was the game.

*Verb* (common).—1. To quiz; to chaff; TO ROAST (*q.v.*); TO JOSH (*q.v.*).

1889. *Detroit Free Press*, 26 Jan. His advent here created much merriment, and the operators GUYED him loud enough for him to hear them.

2. (common).—To escape; TO HEDGE (*q.v.*); to run away. Also TO DO A GUY (which also = to give a false name). For synonyms, see AMPUTATE and SKEDADDLE.

1879. J. W. HORSLEY, in *Macmillan's Mag.*, xl. 500. I planned with another boy to GUY (run away).

1887. *Fun*, 23 Mar., p. 125. 'Boat-race Day, as per usual,' said the clerk to the court, 'they'll all be DOING GUYS' (giving false names!).

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON *Police*, p. 321. To run away. . . . DO A GUY.

1892. *Punch*, 24 Sept. 'Arry at Arrygate.' I just DID A GUY.

3. (American).—To spoil; to muddle; to disfigure or distort.

1891. *New York Herald*, 31 May, p. 12, c. 4. Finally, I would remind them that they are apt to GUY their cause by making 'guys' of themselves, and that the best way of making women a power in the land is by encouraging them to be womanly women.

4. (theatrical).—To damn; to hiss; TO SLATE (*q.v.*) or GIVE THE BIRD (*q.v.*).

**GUZZLE** (or **GUTTLE**), *subs.* (vulgar).—1. An insatiable eater or drinker. For synonyms, see STODGER and LUSHINGTON respectively.

2. (vulgar).—A debauch.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of Cheap Jack*, 58. Doing a GUZZLE with money he earned.

3. (common).—Drink.



1653. URQUHART, *Rabelais*, Bk. II., ch. i., *note*. It signifies rum-booze, as our gipsies call good-GUZZLE.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1698-1700. WARD, *London Spy*, part III., p. 47. A Pennyworth of burnt Bread soften'd in a Mug of Porter's GUZZLE.

c. 1795. WOLCOT [P. Pindar] *Peter's Pension*, in wks. (Dublin, 1795), vol. i., p. 484. Lo, for a little meat and GUZZLE, This sneaking cur, too, takes the muzzle.

*Verb.* (vulgar).—I. To drink greedily, or to excess.

1607. DEKKER, *Westward Ho*, v., i. My master and Sir Gosling are GUZZLING; they are dabbling together fathom-deep.

1693. DRYDEN, *Persius*, vi., 51. And, lavish of suspense, Quaffs, crams, and GUTTLES, in his own defence.

1698. FARQUHAR, *Love and a Bottle*, Act i. His education could reach no farther than to GUZZLE fat ale.

1727. GAY, *Beggar's Opera*, i., 3. Tom Tiddle, a GUZZLING soaking sot, who is always too drunk to stand himself.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). GUZZLE (v.) to tiddle, to fuddle, to drink much and greedily.

1782. WOLCOT [P. Pindar], *Lyric Odes*, Ode i. The poet might have GUTTLED till he split.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. lxi. Are you . . . to tell me that the aim of life is to GUTTLE three courses and dine off silver?

**GUZZLE-GUTS**, *subs.* (common).—A glutton; a hard drinker.—*Lex. Bal.* (1811). See GUZZLE.

**GUZZLER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A hard drinker; a coarse, voracious feeder. See GUZZLE.

a. 1760. T. BROWN, *Works*, iii., 265 [ed. 1760]. Being an eternal GUZZLER of wine, his mouth smelt like a vintner's vault.

1841. DICKENS, *Barnaby Rudge*, ch. xiii. To be looked upon as a common pipe-smoker beer-bibber, spirit-GUZZLER, and toss-pot.

**GUZZLING**, *subs.* (vulgar).—Eating or drinking to excess; also eating or drinking in a coarse unmannerly fashion.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 28. What with snoozing, high-grubbing and GUZZLING like Chloe.

1882. F. ANSTEY, *Vice Versa*, ch. xv. There shall be no pocketing at this table, sir. You will eat that pudding under my eye at once, and you will stay in and write out French verbs for two days. That will put an end to any more GUZZLING in the garden for a time, at least.

**GUZZUM**, *subs.* (American).—Chatter; noise. For synonyms, see PATTERN.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 22 Dec. 'Now, Jerry, if yer don't stop yer GUZZUM I'll skin yer alive!' she exclaimed as she stood in the door and flourished a skillet at him.

**G.Y.** ALL A G.Y., *adv. phr.* (North Country).—Crooked; all on one side; 'all of a hugh.'

**GYBE**, *subs.* (old).—A written paper.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 65. A GYB, a writing.

1608. DEKKER, *Belman of London*, in wks. (GROSART) III., 104. His office is to make counterfet licences, which are called GYBES.

1724. E. COLES, *Eng. Dict.* GYBE, any Writing or Pass.

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, ch. xxv. He knows my GYBE [pass] as well as the jark [seal] of e'er a queer cuffin [justice of peace] in England.

*Verb.* (old).—I. To whip; to castigate. *E.g.*, GYBED at the cart's arse=whipped at the cart's tail.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew* GYB'D, jerkt or whipt.

**GYBING** (also **GIBERY**), *subs.* (old : now recognised).—Jeering.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

**GYGER**. See **JIGGER**.

**GYMNASIUM**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

**GYP**, *subs.* (Cambridge University).

— 1. A college servant. At Oxford, a scout, at Dublin, a skip. (Etymology doubtful : according to *Sat. Rev.* an abbreviation of Gipsy Joe ; according to Cambridge undergraduates from the Greek γύψ (GUPS) = a vulture ; from the creature's rapacity.]

1794. *Gent. Mag.*, p. 1085. [A Cambridge college servant is called a jip.]

1842. *Tait's Mag.*, Oct., 'Reminiscences of Coll. Life.' There is attached to colleges and halls a person more useful than ornamental, and better known than paid, whom Oxonians name Gyp, from his supposed moral affinity to a vulture (γύψ). The same is in Dublin denominated a *Skip*, because of the activity which is an indispensable item in his qualifications.

1849. C. KINGSLEY, *Alton Locke*, ch. xii. I'll send you in luncheon as I go through the butteries ; then, perhaps, you'd like to come down and see the race. Ask the GYP to tell you the way.

1850. SMEDLEY, *Frank Fairleigh*, p. 254. Fellow you call the GYP wanted to make me believe you were out—thought I looked too like a governor to be let in, I suppose.

1882. F. ANSTEY, *Vice Versa*, ch. v. Who should we see coming straight down on us but a Proctor with his bull-dogs (not dogs, you know, but the strongest GYPS in the college).

2. (American).—A thief. For synonyms, see **THIEVES**.

**GYPSIES OF SCIENCE**, *subs. phr.* (literary).—The British Association.

1846. *Times*, 5 Sept. On Thursday next, the *Gypsies of Science* (the British Association) will have pitched their tents at Southampton.

**GYROTWISTIVE**, *adj.* (American).—Full of evasions and tricks ; a 'portmanteau word.'

**GYTE**, *subs.* (common). — 1. A child ; in contempt. [A corruption of goat.]

2. (Scots').—A first year's pupil in the Edinburgh High School.

**GYVEL**, *subs.* (Scots' venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

d. 1796. BURNS, *The Merry Muses*, 'Nine Inches for a Lady,' 33-4. Come louse and lug your battering ram, An thrash him at my GYVEL.





# ABERDASHER,

*subs.* (old colloquial: now recognised). — I.

A dealer in small wares; specifically (1) a hatter, and (2),

humorously) a publican (*i.e.*, a seller of TAPE (*q.v.*). Now restricted to a retail draper.

1599. MINSHEU, *Dictionary*, s.v.

1632. JONSON, *The Magnetic Lady*, 'Induction.' Poetaccios, poetasters, poetitos. . . And all HABERDASHERS of small wit.

*d.* 1680. BUTLER, *Remarks* (1759), ii., 107. He set up HABERDASHER of a small poetry.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, iii., 5. The HABERDASHER is the whistler, otherwise the spirit-merchant, Jerry—and tape the commodity he deals in.

HABERDASHER OF PRONOUNS, *subs. phr.* (common).—A schoolmaster. For synonyms, *see* BUMBRUSHER.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

HABIT, *subs.* (old University).—*See* quot.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantabrigiam*. HABIT. College HABIT, College dress, called of old, Livery: the dress of the Master, Fellows, and Scholars.

HAB-NAB (or HOB-NOB (*q.v.*)), *adv.* (old).—I. At random; promiscuously; helter-skelter; ding-dong,

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, iii., 4. His incensement at this moment is so great that satisfaction can be none but by pangs of death and sepulchre. HOB-NOB is his word; give't, or take't.

1664. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, ii., 3. Although set down HAB-NAB at random.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAB-NAB, at a Venture, Un sight, Unseen, Hit or Miss.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

2. (old).—By hook or by crook; by fair means or foul.

1581. LILLY, *Euphues*, 103. Philantus determined HABNAB to send his letters.

*Verb* (old).—To drink with; giving health for health.

1836. HORACE SMITH, *The Tin Trumpet*. 'Address to a Mummy.' Perchance that very hand now pinioned flat Has HOB-AND-NOBBED with Pharaoh glass for glass.

HACK (or HACKNEY), *subs.* (old: now recognised).—I. A person or thing let out for promiscuous use: *e.g.*, a horse, a whore, a literary drudge. Whence (2) a coach that plies for hire; (3) (stables') a horse for everyday use, as offered to one for a special purpose—hunting, racing, polo. (4) (Cambridge Univ.), *see* quot. 1803. Also HACKSTER.

1333. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*, 16,027. His HAKENEY, which that was a pomele gris.

1540. LYNDSEY, *Sa'tyre of the thrie Estaitis*, 3237. I may finde the Earle of Rothus best HACKNAY.



1582. HAKLUYT, *Voyages*, i., 400. There they use to put out their women to hire as we do here HAKNEY horses.

1594. SHAKSPEARE, *Love's Labour Lost*, iii., 1. The hobby-horse is but a colt, and your love perhaps a HACKNEY.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Traveller*, 101 (Chiswick Press, 1890). Out whore, strumpet, sixpenny HACKSTER, away with her to prison!

1672. RAY, *Proverbs*. HACKNEY mistress, HACKNEY maid.

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. iii., c. 1. That is no more than every lover Does from his HACKNEY-LADY suffer.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HACKS, or HACKNEYS, Hirelings. *Ibid.*, HACKNEY HORSES. *Ibid.*, HACKNEY SCRIBBLERS. *Ibid.*, HACKNEY WHORES, Common Prostitutes.

1738. POPE, *Ep. to Sat.* Shall each spurgall'd HACKNEY of the day, Or each new pension'd sycophant, pretend To break my windows?

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, iv., 14. With wonderful alacrity he had ended almost in an instant, and conveyed himself into a place of safety in a HACKNEY-coach.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HACKNEY-WRITER, one who writes for attornies or booksellers.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantabrigiam*. HACKS. HACK Preachers; the common exhibitors at St. Mary's, employed in the service of defaulters, and absentees.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*. I first was hired to peg a HACK.

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, i., 7. A rattler is a rumbler, otherwise a Jarvy! Better known, perhaps, by the name of a HACK.

1841. LEMAN REDE, *Sixteen String Jack*, ii., 3. I'll get a HACK, be off in a crack.

*Verb* (colloquial, football).—To kick shins. HACKING=the practice of kicking shins at football.

1857. G. A. LAWRENCE, *Guy Livingstone*, ch. i. I saw, too, more than one player limp out of his path disconsolately, trying vainly to dissemble the pain of a vicious HACK.

1869. SPENCER, *Study of Sociology*, ch. viii. p. 186 (9th ed.). And thus, perhaps, the 'education of a gentleman' may rightly include giving and receiving HACKING of the shins at foot-ball.

1872. *The Echo*, 3 Nov. Some of the modern foot ball players have the tips of their shoes tipped with iron, and others wear a kind of armour or iron plate under their knicker-bockers to avoid . . . what is called HACKING.

**HACKLE**, *subs.* (common).—Pluck; spirit; BOTTOM (*q.v.*). To SHOW HACKLE = to show fight. [Hackle=a long shining feather on a cock's neck.] Fr., *avoir du foie*; *n'avoir pas le flubart*, or *avoir du poil au ciel*.

**HACKSLAVER**, *verb.* (old).—To stammer; to splutter; to hesitate in speech.

**HACKUM** (or **CAPTAIN HACKUM**, or **HACKSTER**), *subs.* (old).—A bully; a bravo. For synonyms, see FURIOSO.

1657. *Lady Alimony*, 1, 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., p. 282). Vowing, like a desperate HAXTER that he has express command to seize upon all our properties.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HACKAM, Fighting Fellow.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HACKUM, Captain Hackum, a bravo, a slasher.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*. HACKUM, a bravado, a slasher, 'Capt. Hackum,' a fellow who slashes with a bowie-knife.

**HAD.**—See HAVE.

**HADDOCK**, *subs.* (common).—I. A purse. HADDOCK OF BEANS = a purse of money. [Haddock = cod : O. Sw., *Rudde*; Ic., *Koddi* = a small bag. Cf., CODPIECE.] For synonyms, see POGE.

1598. FLORIO, *Worlds of Wordes*. *Melrusio*, the fish we call a HADOCK, or a cod. *Ibid.* *Metter la fauna nel baccello*, to put the beane into the cod.

1834. H. AINSWORTH, *Rockwood*, bk. III., ch. xiii. 'What's here?' cried he, searching the attorney's pockets . . . 'a HADDOCK, stuffed with nothing, I'm thinking.'

2. *in pl.* (Stock Exchange).—North of Scotland Ordinary Stock.

**HADDUMS** (or **HAD 'EM**).—*See* quotes.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*. The Spark has been at HADDUMS. He is Clapt, or Foxt.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. He has been at HAD'EM and come home by Clapham, said of one who has caught the venereal disease.

**HAG**, *subs.* (old : now recognised).

—1. A witch. Whence (2) an ugly old woman ; a she-monster. Also (3) a nightmare. At Charterhouse, a female of any description ; at Winchester, a matron. Hence, HAG-RIDDEN = troubled with nightmare. HAG-BORN = witch-born. HAG-SEED (Shakespeare, *Tempest*) = spawned of a witch. HAG-FACED = foul-featured. In another sense, HAGS = spots of firm ground in a moss or bog.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Duke of Albany*, Lyke a Scottish HAG.

1606. *Wily Beguiled* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 277). Like to some hellish HAG or some damned fiend.

1606. SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, iv., 1. How now, you secret, black, and midnight HAGS !

1627. DRAYTON, *The Moon-calf* (CHALMER'S *English Poets*, 1810, iv., 133). The filthy HAG abhorring of the light.

1632. JONSON, *Magnetic Lady*, v. 6. Out HAG !

1637. JONSON, *Sad Shepherd*, ii., 2. As if you knew the sport of witch-hunting, Or starting of a HAG.

1680. COTTON, *Poems*, etc., 'To Poet E.W.' Adulterate HAGS, fit for a common stew.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1748. THOMSON, *Castle of Indolence*, i., 73. Fierce fiends and HAGS of hell their only nurses were.

1773-83. HOOLE, *Orlando Furioso*, xliii., 998. But such a HAG to paradise conveyed, Had withered by her looks the blissful shade.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, xliii. Hatteraick himself, and the gypsy sailor, and that old HAG.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 89. Old women were there also, with hideous vice-stamped features, veritable HAGS all of them.

**YOUR HAGSHIP !** *phr.* (common).—In contempt (of women).

**HAG-FINDER**, *subs.* (old).—A witch finder.

1637. JONSON, *Sad Shepherd*, ii., 2. That I do promise, or I am no good HAG-FINDER.

**HAGGED**, *adj.* (old, now [as HAG-GARD] recognised).—Ugly ; gaunt ; hag-like.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAGGED, Lean, Witched, Half-starved.

1716-1771. GRAY, *A Long Story*. The ghostly prudes with HAGGED face.

**HAGGISLAND**, *subs.* (common).—Scotland.

**HAGGLE**, *verb.* (old, now recognised).

—To bargain keenly ; to stick at, or out for, trumpery points ; to debate small issues.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1849-61. MACAULAY, *Hist. Eng.*, ch. xx. HAGGLING with the greedy, making up quarrels.

**HAGGLER**, *subs.* (old).—Formerly a travelling merchant ; a pedlar : now (in London vegetable markets) a middleman. *Cf.* BUMMAREE.

1662. FULLER, *Worthies* ; Dorsetshire. Horses, on which HAGGLERS used to ride and carry their commodities.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. A HAGLER, one that buys of the Country Folks, and sells in the Market, and goes from Door to Door.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Æsop*, i. 1. I se no HAGLER, gadswookers and he that says I am—zbud, he lies!

1851-61. H. MAYHEW *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. 1., p. 83. A HAGGLER being, as I before explained, the middle-man.

**HAIL.** TO RAISE HAIL (or NED, or CAIN, or HELL), *verb. phr.* (American).—To make a disturbance; to kick up a row.

1888. *Portland Transcript*, 7 Mar. He is determined that they shall have a clear deed to one hundred and sixty acres of land when the question is settled, or he will RAISE HAIL.

TO BE HAIL FELLOW WELL MET, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be on very easy terms: also AT HAIL-FELLOW.

1574-1656. *Hall's Satires*, III., i., p. 40. Now man, that erst HAILE-FELLOW was with beast, Woxe on to weene himselfe a god at least.

1665. *Homer à la Mode*. The cookes too, having done, were set At table HAY FELLOW WELL MET [Quoted by Nares].

1667-1745. SWIFT, *My Lady's Lamentation*. HAIL FELLOW, WELL MET, all dirty and wet; Find out, if you can, who's master, who's man.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 108. And at first he sings small, and is HAIL-FELLOW-WELL-MET with Sheamus—that's James of the Glens, my chieftain's agent.

TO BE HAILED FOR THE LAST TIME, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To die. For synonyms, see ALOFT.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 322. He's BEEN HAILED FOR THE LAST TIME.

**HAIR**, *subs.* (venery).—1. The female pubes. Whence (2) generic for the sex: e.g., AFTER HAIR= in quest of a woman; PLENTY OF HAIR=lots of girls; HAIR TO SELL=a woman with a price; HAIR-MONGER=a wench; BIT OF HAIR=the sexual favour. For synonyms, see FLEECE.

TO GO AGAINST THE HAIR, *verb. phr.* (old colloquial).—To go against the grain, or contrary to nature. [From the texture of furs.]

1589. NASHE, *Martin's Months Minde* (Grosart), i., 188. For hee euer WENT AGAINST THE HAIRE.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives*, ii., 3. If you should fight, you GO AGAINST THE HAIR of your professions.

1661. MIDDLETON, *Mayor of Queenborough*, C. P. xi., 122. Books in women's hands are as much AGAINST THE HAIR, methinks, as to see men wear stomachers, Or night-railes.

BOTH OF A HAIR, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Very much alike. Also, two of a trade, and two in a tale.

NOT WORTH A HAIR, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Utterly worthless. Cf., CENT, RAP, DUMP, etc.

TO A HAIR, *adv. phr.*—(colloquial).—Exactly; to a nicety. Cf., TO FIT TO A HAIR=to fit perfectly.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Æsop*, i., 1. Here was a young gentlewoman but just now pencilled me out to A HAIR.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Conversation*. Miss. Well I love a Lyar with all my Heart; and you FIT ME TO A HAIR.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 30. The fellow FITS my temper TO A HAIR.

TO SPLIT HAIRS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To cavil about trifles; to quibble; to be over-nice in argument.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, ii., 2. Now, I must speak; it will SPLIT A HAIR by the Lord Harry.

SUIT OF HAIR, *subs. phr.* (American).—A HEAD OF HAIR (*q.v.*).



TO RAISE (or LIFT) HAIR, *verb. phr.* (American).—To scalp; hence, idiomatically, to defeat; to kill. TO KEEP ONE'S HAIR = to escape a danger.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 194. Kit Carson . . . had RAISED MORE HAIR from the red-skins than any two men in the Western country.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody*, p. 101. If you'll take the chances of KEEPING YOUR HAIR.

TO COMB ONE'S HAIR, *verb. phr.* (common).—To castigate; to MONKEY (*q.v.*). See COMB ONE'S HAIR, *ante*.

TO HOLD (or KEEP) ONE'S HAIR (or WOOL) ON, *verb. phr.* (common).—To keep one's temper; to avoid excitement; to take easily. Also TO KEEP ONE'S SHIRT ON, or TO PULL DOWN ONE'S JACKET (or VEST). Fr., *être calme et inodore*.

1885. BRET HARTE, *A Ship of '49*, ch. vi. 'But what the devil—' interrupted the young man impetuously. 'KEEP YER HAIR ON!' remonstrated the old man with dark intelligence.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arroy Ballads', p. 78. Do KEEP YOUR HAIR ON, dear pal.

1892. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 5 Oct., p. 45, c. 1. 'Who make devil's row like that all night?' he asked. 'KEEP YOUR HAIR ON, Moses Trinko,' replied the reception officer, cheerily.

A HAIR OF THE BLACK BEAR (or B'AR), *subs. phr.* (American).—A spice of the devil.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, . 6. Thar was old grit in him, too, and HAIR OF THE BLACK B'AR at that.

TO GET ONE'S HAIR CUT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To visit a woman; TO SEE A SICK FRIEND (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDGE.

1892. ANSTEEY, *Model Music Hall*, 154. Tommy. What, Uncle, going? *The W. U.* (with assumed jauntiness). Just TO GET MY HAIR CUT.

TO MAKE ONE'S HAIR STAND ON END, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To astonish.

1897. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, lv., 4. It's well you are come: I'm so frightened, MY HAIR STANDS ON END.

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society* ch. iii. If I were to tell you some incidents of my life since you and I last met, I should make your HAIR STAND ON END.

A HAIR OF THE DOG THAT BIT YOU, *subs. phr.* (common).—A 'pick-me-up' after a debauch. [Apparently a memory of the superstition, which was and still is common, that, being bitten by a dog, one cannot do better than pluck a handful of hair from him, and lay it on the wound. Also figuratively, see quot. 1888.]

1531. BOVILLI, *Prov. ii., xvi. siècle*, t. 1., p. 192. Du poil de la beste qui te mordis, Ou de son sanc sera guérirs.

1546. HEYWOOD, *Proverbs* [1874], 79. What how fellow, thou knave, I pray thee let me and my fellow have A HAIRE OF THE DOG THAT BIT US last night. And bitten were we bothe to the braine aright.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fayre*, I | 'Twas a hot night with some of us, last night, John: shall we pluck a HAIR OF THE SAME WOLF to-day, proctor John?

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Convers.*, Dial 2 *Lady Gur.* But, Sir John, your ale is terrible strong and heady . . . Sir John Why, indeed, it is apt to fox one; but our way is to take a HAIR OF THE SAME DOG next morning.

1841. DICKENS, *B. Rudge*, ch. lii. Put a good face upon it, and drink again! Another HAIR OF THE DOG THAT BIT YOU, captain!

1888. *Detroit Free Press*. 'Talk of the Day,' 3 Nov. *Travis*.—'Hello, De Smith! You're looking better than I expected. I understood that you were completely crushed by that love affair. How did you recover?' *De Smith*.—'HAIR OF THE DOG THAT BIT ME. Fell in love with another girl.'

**HAIR-BUTCHER**, *subs.* (American).  
—A barber. For synonyms, *see* NOB-THATCHER.

1888. *Puck's Library*, May, p. 15.  
'Oi 'm wullin' thot bloomin' HAIR-BUTCHER  
shud have a fit, av he wants.

**HAIR-COURT**, *subs.*, *phr.* (venery).  
—The female *pudendum*. For  
synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.  
TO TAKE A TURN IN HAIR-  
COURT = to copulate.

**HAIR-DIVIDER** (or **-SPLITTER**), *subs.*  
(venery).—The *penis*. For syn-  
onyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and  
PRICK. Also BEARD-SPLITTER.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.  
HAIR-SPLITTER, a man's yard.

**HAIR-PIN**, *subs.* (American).—An  
individual, male or female: *e.g.*,  
'THAT'S THE SORT OF HAIR-PIN  
I AM = that's my style.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 6 Oct.  
'That's the kind of HAIRPINS we are,' said  
the enthusiastic swain.

**HAIRY**, *adj.* (Oxford University).—  
1. Difficult.

d. 1861. ARTHUR CLOUGH, *Long Vac-  
ation Pastoral*. Three weeks hence we  
return to the shop and the wash-hand-  
stand-bason, Three weeks hence unbury  
Thicksides and HAIRY Aldrich.

1864. *The Press*, 12 Nov. HAIRY  
for difficult is a characteristic epithet.

2. (colloquial). — Splendid;  
famous; conspicuous; uncom-  
mon.

1892. RUDYARD KIPLING, *Barrack  
Room Ballads*. 'The Sons of the Widow.'  
Did you hear of the Widow of Windsor  
with a HAIRY gold crown on her head?

3. (venery).—Desirable; full  
of sex; FUCKABLE (*g.v.*). [Said  
only of women: *e.g.*, HAIRY BIT  
= an amorous and taking wench.]  
*See* HAIR.

TO FEEL HAIRY, *verb. phr.*  
(venery).—To be inclined for  
coition; to have a MUST (*g.v.*).

**HAIRYFORDSHIRE**, *subs.* (venery).  
—The female *pudendum*. To  
GO TO HAIRYFORDSHIRE = to  
copulate. For synonyms, *see*  
MONOSYLLABLE.

**HAIRY-ORACLE** (or **-RING**), *subs.*  
(venery).—The female *pudendum*  
WORKING THE HAIRY-ORACLE =  
wenching. For synonyms, *see*  
MONOSYLLABLE.

**HALBERT**. TO GET THE HAL-  
BERT, *verb. phr.* (old military).  
—To rise to sergeant's rank.  
[The weapon was carried  
by sergeants of foot.] TO BE  
BROUGHT TO THE HALBERTS =  
to be flogged; TO CARRY THE  
HALBERT IN ONE'S FACE = to  
show that one rose from the ranks  
(of officers in commission).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HALF**. IT'S HALF PAST KISSING  
TIME AND TIME TO KISS AGAIN.  
*phr.* (common).—The retort im-  
pudent (to females) when asked  
the time. A snatch from a  
ballad. [In SWIFT (*Polite Con-  
versation*) = an hour pas  
hanging time.]

**HALF-A-CRACK** (or **JEFFY**, or **TICK**).  
—Half a second.

**HALF-AND-HALF**, *subs.* (colloquial).  
—Equal quantities of ale and  
porter; *Cf.*, FOUR-HALF and  
DRINKS.

1824. REYNOLDS, *Peter Corcoran*,  
41. Over my gentle HALF-AND-HALF.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Bos*,  
p. 111. We were never tired of wondering  
how the hackney-coachmen on the  
opposite stand could . . . drink pots of  
HALF-AND-HALF so near the last drop.

1811. ALBERT SMITH (in *Punch*). 'The Physiology of the London Medical Student.' HALF-AND-HALF . . . is . . . ale and porter, the proportion of the porter increasing in an inverse ratio to the respectability of the public house you get it from.

1854. MARTIN and AYTOUN, *Bon Gaultier Ballads*. 'My Wife's Cousin.' HALF-AND-HALF goes down before him, Gurgling from the pewter-pot; And he moves a counter motion For a glass of something hot.

1872. *Fun*, July. 'The Right Tap.' If the lever, meaning a plumper, were labelled 'stout,' and those recording a split vote HALF AND HALF, the illusion would be complete.

*Adj.* (common).—Half-drunk; HALF-ON (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*. HALF AND HALF, half seas over, tipsy.

HALF-AND-HALF-COVES (or MEN, BOYS, etc.), *subs.* (old).—Cheap or linsey-woolsey dandies; half-BUCKS (*q.v.*) and half-TIGERS (*q.v.*).

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, i., 7. *Jerry*. The HALF-AND-HALF COVES are somewhat different from the swaddies, and gay tyke boys, at the dog pit—Eh, Tom?

**HALF-AN-EYE.** TO SEE WITH HALF AN EYE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To discern readily; to be quick at conclusions.

**HALF-BAKED** (or **SOFT-BAKED**), *adj.* (common).—Halfwitted; cracked; SOFT (*q.v.*); DOUGHY (*q.v.*); also HALF-ROCKED (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see APARTMENTS and TILE LOOSE. Fr., *n'avoir pas la tête bien cuite*.

1825. SCOTT, *St. Ronan's Well*, ii., 221. He must scheme forsooth, this HALF-BAKED Scotch cake! He must hold off and on, and be cautious, and wait the result, and try conclusions with me, this lump of natural dough!

1857. C. KINGSLEY, *Two Years Ago*, ch. iv. 'A sort of HALF-BAKED body,' said Kate.

1886. W. BESANT, *Children of Gibeon*, Bk. II., ch. xiv. A daughter of seventeen not quite right in her head—HALF-BAKED, to use the popular and feeling expression.

1890. *Answers*, Xmas No., p. 19, c. 3. 'You needn't be so crusty,' said Todkins to his better half. 'Better be a little crusty than not HALF-BAKED,' was the reply of his amiable spouse.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 1 Nov., p. 2, c. 3. Mr. Vane Tempest as serene of HALF-BAKED cynics, and Mr. H. Vincent as most credulous of bibulous optimists.

**HALF-BREED**, *subs.* (American political).—A nick-name applied to certain New York Republicans, who wavered in their allegiance during an election to the Senate in 1881.—NORTON.

**HALF-COCKED**, *adv.* (common).—Half-drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1887. H. SMART, *Saddle and Sabre*, ch. xvii. 'Black Bill,' as he was called by his brother jockeys, was very often HALF-COCKED when he got up to ride . . . The man could ride as well half-drunk as sober.

TO GO OFF AT HALF-COCK (or HALF-COCKED), *verb. phr.* 1. (sporting).—To fail through hasty and ill considered endeavours; and 2. (venery) = to ejaculate before completing erection.

1848. LOWELL, *Biglow Papers* [Wk. 1891], p. 231. Now don't go off HALF-COCK; folks never gains By usin' peppercarse instid o' brains.

**HALF-CRACKED**, *adv.* (common).—Lacking in intelligence. See APARTMENTS and TILE LOOSE.

1887. W. P. FRITH, *Autobiog.*, i., 129. Who was what is vulgarly called HALF-CRACKED.

**HALF-CROWN WORD**, *subs. phr.* (common).—1. A difficult or uncommon vocable; a JAW-BREAKER (*q.v.*) or crack-jaw. Also (tailors') = a SLEEVEBOARD (*q.v.*).



**HALF-CROWNER**, *subs.* (booksellers').  
—A publication costing 2s. 6d.

**HALF-CUT**, *adv.* (common).—Half-drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

**HALF-FLY FLAT**, *subs. phr.* (thieves').  
—A thief's jackal; a man (or woman) hired to do rough or dirty work.

**HALF-GROWN SHAD**, *subs. phr.* (American).—A dolt. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1838. NEAL, *Charcoal Sketches*.  
No more interlect than a HALF-GROWN SHAD.

**HALF LAUGH AND PURSER'S GRIN**, *subs. phr.* (nautical).—A sneer; a half-and-half meaning.—CLARK RUSSELL.

**HALFLINGS**, *adj.* (Scots').—Betwixt and between. [Usually said of a boy or girl just leaving childhood.]

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, xi. In my youth, nay, when I was a HAFLINS callant.

**HALF-MAN**, *subs.* (nautical).—A landsman rated as A.B.

**HALF-MARROW**, *subs.* (old Scots').  
—1. A faithless spouse; also a parcel husband or wife.

1600-61. RUTHERFORD, *Letters*, i., 123. Plead with your harlot-mother, who hath been a treacherous HALF-MARROW to her husband Jesus.

2. (nautical).—An incompetent seaman.

**HALF-MOON**, *subs.* (old).—1. A wig; and (2) the female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* PERIWINKLE and MONOSYLLABLE.

1611. LODOWICK BARRY, *Ram Alley* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, vii., 326, ed. 1875).  
Is not her HALF-MOON mine?

**HALF-MOURNING**, *subs.* (common).  
—A black eye. FULL-MOURNING = two black eyes or DEEP GRIEF.

**HALF-NAB** (or **NAP**), *adv.* (old).—  
*See* quot.

1791. BAMPFYLDE-MOORE CAREW, *Life*. HALF-NAB—at a venture, unsight unseen, hit or miss.

**HALF-ON**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Half-drunk.

**HALF-ROCKED**, *adv.* (common).—Half-witted; silly. [From a West Country saying that all idiots are nursed bottom upwards.] *See* APARTMENTS and TILE LOOSE.

**HALF- SAVED**, *adv.* (common).—Weak-minded; shallow-brained. *See* APARTMENTS and TILE LOOSE.

1834. SOUTHEY, *The Doctor*, ch. x. William Dove's was not a case of fatuity. Though all was not there, there was a great deal. He was what is called HALF- SAVED.

1874. M. COLLINS, *Frances*, ch. xlii. This groom was what they call in the west country HALF- SAVED.

**HALF-SCREWED**, *adj.* (common).—More or less in liquor. *See* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1839. LEVER, *Harry Lorrequer*, ch. ii. He was, in Kilrush phrase, HALF-SCREWED, thereby meaning more than half tipsy.

**HALF- SEAS OVER**, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Loosely applied to various degrees of inebriety. Formerly = half way on one's course, or towards attainment. For synonyms, *see* SCREWED.

[In its specific sense Gifford says, "a corruption of the Dutch *op-zee zober*, 'over-sea beer,' a strong heady beverage introduced into Holland from England." 'Up-zee Freese' is Friesland beer. The German *zauber* means 'strong beer' and 'bewitchment.' Thus (1610) in JONSON, *Alchemist*, iv., 2. 'I do not like the dulness of your eye, It hath a heavy cast, 'tis UPSEE DUTCH.' Other nautical terms = drunk are WATER-LOGGED; SPRUNG; SLEWED; WITH ONE'S JIB WELL BOWSED; THREE SHEETS IN THE WIND; CHANNELS UNDER, but *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.]

1631-1701. DRYDEN. I am HALF-SEAS OVER to death.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HALF-SEAS OVER, almost Drunk.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Relapse*, iii., 3. Good; that's thinking HALF-SEAS OVER. One tide more brings us into port.

1714. *Spectator*, No. 616. The whole magistracy was pretty well disguised before I gave them the slip. Our friend the alderman was HALF-SEAS OVER before the bonfire was out.

1738. SWIFT, *Pol. Convers.*, Dial 1. You must own you had a drop in your eye; when I left you, you were HALF SEAS OVER.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. ix. Who, by this time, had entered into all the jollity of his new friends, and was indeed more than HALF-SEAS-OVER.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1829. J. B. BUCKSTONE, *Billy Taylor*. The public-houses will not close till morn. And wine and spirituous liquors are so cheap, That we can all get nicely HALF SEAS OVER, And see no sea at all.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], p. 40. Mr. Smith, now being more than HALF-SEAS OVER, became very uproarious.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. xxx. It's pay-day with the General . . . and he's a precious deal more than HALF-SEAS OVER.

1866. G. ELIOT, *Felix Holt*, ch. xxviii. There's truth in wine, and there may be some in gin and muddy beer. . . I've got plenty of truth in my time out of men who were HALF-SEAS-OVER, but never any that was worth a sixpence to me.

1890. *Globe*, 16 Apr., p. 2, c. 1. The familiar phrase HALF-SEAS OVER, for example, is wanting, and for this we appear to be indebted to the Dutch.

1892. *The Cosmopolitan*, Oct., p. 724. The fellow HALF-SEAS-OVER every-one excuses.

**HALF-SLEWED**, *adj.* (common).—Parcel drunk. For synonyms, *see* SCREWED.

**HALF-SNACKS** (or **HALF-SNAGS**), *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Half-shares. *See* quotes.

1683. EARL OF DORSET, *A Faithful Catalogue*. She mounts the price and goes HALF SNACK herself.

1887. *Walford's Antiquarian*, p. 252. HALF-SNAGS is a corrupted form of HALF SNACKS, *i.e.*, half shares. If one of a party of arabs finds any article it becomes his entire property unless his fellows say HALF-SNAGS, or 'Quarter-bits,' or 'Some for your neighbours.'

**HALF-'UN**, *subs.* (common).—Half-a glass of spirits and water; HALF-A-GO (*q.v.*).

**HALF-WIDOW**, *subs.* (American).—A woman with a lazy and thriftless husband.

[For Half in combination, *see* also BEAN; BORDE; BULL; CASE; CENTURY; COUTER; DOLLAR; GEORGE; GO; GRUNTER; HOG; JACK; JAMES; NED; OUNCE; QUID; SKIV; STRETCH; TUSHEROON; WHEEL.]

**HALIFAX**. GO TO HALIFAX. *verb. phr.* (American).—Be off! GO TO HELL (*q.v.*). The full text is GO TO HELL, HULL, or HALIFAX. *Cf.* BATH, BLAZES, HULL, PUTNEY, etc.

1599. NASHE, *Leuten Stuffe* (Grosart, 1883-84, p. 284). If frier *Pendela* and his fellows, had any thing to say to him, in his admiral court of the sea, let them seek him, and neither in HULL, HELL, nor HALIFAX.

1875. *Notes and Queries*, 5 S., iv., p. 66. GO TO HALIFAX. This expression is sometimes used in the United States as a mild substitute for a direction to go to a place not to be named to ears polite.

**HALL**, *subs.* (fishmongers'). — 1. Specifically THE HALL = Leaden-hall Market. *Cf.*, GARDEN, LANE, etc.

2. (Oxford Univ.).—Dinner. [Which is taken in College HALL.] TO HALL = to dine.

GO AND HIRE A HALL. *phr.* (American). — A retort upon loquacious bores.

HALL BY THE SEA, *subs. phr.* (medical students').—The Examination Hall of the conjoined Board of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. [Situate on the Embankment at the foot of Waterloo Bridge.]

HALL OF DELIGHT, *subs. phr.* (Australian).—A music hall.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 53. I thought you coons would find your way to this HALL OF DELIGHT.

**HALLAN-SHAKER** (OR **HALLEN-SHAKER**), *subs.* (old).—A vagabond or sturdy beggar. For synonyms, *see* CADGER and MUMPER.

c. 1503-4. DUNBAR, *A General Satyre* wks. (ed. DAVID LAING, 1834), ii., 26. Sic knavis and crakkeris to play at cartis and dyce, Sic HALLAND-SCHAKKARIS.

c. 1600. MONTGOMERIE, *Poems* (Scottish Text Soc., 1885-7), Polwart and Montgomerie's Flying, p. 85. HALLAND-SHAKER, draught-raiker, bannock-baiker, ale-beshitten.

(?) 1642. *Old Ballad*. 'Maggie Lauder. Right scornfully she answered him, Begone, you HALLAN-SHAKER.

1724. *Journal from London*, p. 4. Had seen me than staakin about like a HALLEN-SHAKER, You wou'd hae taen me for a water-wraith.

1816. SCOTT, *Antiquary*, ch. iv. I, and a wheen HALLENSHAKERS like mysel'.

**HALLIBALLO**.—*See* HULLIBALLO.

**HALLION** (OR **HALLYON**), *subs.* (old). — 1. A rogue; a clod; a gentleman's servant out of livery; also (2) a shrew. *Cf.*, HELL-CAT.

1817. SCOTT, *Rob Roy*, ch. iv. This is a decentish HALLION.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear*, etc., p. 69. The scoundrels! the oudacious little HELLIONS!

**HALLOO**. TO HALLOO WITH THE UNDER DOG, *verb. phr.* (American).—To take the losing side.

**HALO**. TO WORK THE HALO RACKET, *verb. phr.* (common).—To grumble; to be dissatisfied. [From the story of the Saint in Heaven who got dissatisfied with his nimbus.]

**HALTERSACK**, *subs.* (old). — A gallows-bird; a general term of reproach and contempt.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, *Bazaro*, a shifter, a conicatcher . . . a HALTERSACK.

1619. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER *King and no King*, ii., 2. Away, you HALTERSACK, you.

**HALVES**, *subs.* (Winchester College). — (pro. Hâves.) Half-Wellington boots, which were strictly *non licet* (obs.).—*Notions*.

TO GO (OR CRY) HALVES, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To take (or claim) a half share or chance. In America, AT THE HALVES.

1831. NEAL, *Down Easters*, ch. iv., p. 45. 'Lives by preachin' AT THE HALVES a sabba'-days.' 'Preaching AT THE HALVES—how's that?' 'Why don't you know? in partnership for what's taken arter the sarmon's over.'

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, III., 122. He'll then again ask if anybody will GO HIM HALVES.

**HAM**, *subs.* (old).—1. (*in. pl.*) Trousers: also HAM-CASES. For synonyms, *see* KICKS.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HAMS, Breeches.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1791. BAMPFYLDE-MOORE CAREW, *Life*. HAMS—breeches.



1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HAMS. Pants.

2. (American).—A LOAFER (*q.v.*). Also HAM-FATTER. [The *American Slang Dict.* says 'A tenth-rate actor or variety performer.']

1898. *Missouri Republican*, 27 Mar. Connelly . . . is a good fighter, but will allow the veriest HAM to whip him, if there is any money to be made by it.

1888. *New York Herald*, 29 July. The . . . more prosperous professional brother of the HAMFATTER.

NO HAM AND ALL HOMINY, *phr.* (American).—Of indifferent quality; 'no great shakes'; 'all work and no play'; 'much cry and little wool.'

**HAMLET**, *subs.* (old and American). See *quots.*

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAMLET . . . a High Constable.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* s.v. HAMLET, a High-Constable.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HAMLET, a high constable (*cant*).

1791. BAMPFYLDE-MOORE CAREW. HAMLET, a high-constable.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HAMLET. A captain of police.

**HAM-MATCH**, *subs.* (common).—A stand-up luncheon.

1890. *Daily Telegraph*, 4 Feb. At one o'clock they relieve their exhausted frames by taking perpendicular refreshment—vulgarily termed a HAM MATCH—at some City luncheon bar.

**HAMMER**, *subs.* (pugilistic).—1. A hard-hitter: especially with the right hand, like the illustrious HAMMER Lane. Also HAMMERER and HAMMER-MAN.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 33. A letter written on the occasion by Henry Harner, the HAMMERER.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, 93. When a man hits very hard, chiefly with a favorite hand, his blows are said to fall like those of a sledge-HAMMER. Such boxers are HAMMERING fighters, that do not defend their own vitals, cannot make sure of a blow, and are termed HAMMERERS and HAMMERMEN.

2. (common).—An unblushing lie. For synonyms, see WHOPPER.

*Verb* (pugilistic).—1. To beat; to PUNISH (*q.v.*).

1887. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 159. And bedad I did, and before herself too, And HAMMERED him well.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody*, ch. ii. 'HAMMER him? What with?—a club?' 'No, with my fists.'

2. (American).—To bate; to drive down (prices, etc.).

1865. *Harper's Magazine*, p. 619. The chronic bears were amusing themselves by HAMMERING, *i.e.*, pressing down the price of Hudsons.

3. (Stock Exchange).—To declare one a defaulter.

1885. *Fortnightly Review*, xxxviii., p. 578. A 'defaulter' has been declared or HAMMERED, as it is technically termed.

1888. *Echo*, 28 Dec. If any unfortunate member be HAMMERED to-day or to-morrow it will in all probability be a bear.

1890. *Daily Telegraph*, 1 Nov. This being the third day after the general settlement, a defaulter who had been unable to provide cash was HAMMERED, and private arrangements are reported in other quarters without resort to this extreme measure.

1891. *Pall Mall Gazette*, 25 July, p. 1, c. 3. But what is an 'outside broker?' some (possibly lady) reader may ask. Well, he may be, and often is, a regular, who has been HAMMERED for failing to meet his 'differences.'

1891. *Tit Bits*, 15 Aug. I need not go into the circumstances which led to my being expelled from that honourable body, or HAMMERED as it is familiarly called, owing to the taps with a hammer which the head porter gives before he officially proclaims the name of a defaulter.

DOWN AS A HAMMER, *adv. phr.* (common).—I. Wide-awake; KNOWING (*q.v.*); FLY (*q.v.*).

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 45. To be down to anything is pretty much the same as being up to it, and DOWN AS A HAMMER is, of course, the *intensivum* of the phrase.

2. (colloquial).—Instant; peremptory; merciless. *Cf.*, LIKE A THOUSAND OF BRICKS. Also TO BE DOWN ON . . . LIKE A HAMMER.

AT (OR UNDER) THE HAMMER, *adv. phr.* (auctioneers').—For sale at auction.

THAT'S THE HAMMER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—An expression of approval or assent.

TO BE HAMMERS TO ONE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To know what one means.

TO HAMMER OUT (OR INTO), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be at pains to deceive; to reiterate; to force to hear.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, iii., 3. Now am I, for some five and fifty reasons, HAMMERING, HAMMERING revenge.

1719. DUREFY, *Pills*, etc., iii., 23. If any Scholar be in doubt, And cannot well bring this matter about; The Blacksmith can HAMMER IT OUT.

1888. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED, *The Ladies' Gallery*, ch. i. I think the chaps that are always HAMMERING on about repentance and atonement and forgiveness of sin have got hold of the wrong end.

HAMMER-AND-TONGS, *adv. phr.* (common).—Very violently; ding-dong.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, II., 108. His master and mistress were at it HAMMER AND TONGS.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xxxv. Our ships were soon hard at it, HAMMER AND TONGS.

1837. MARRYAT, *Snarleyovv*. Ods bobs! HAMMER AND TONGS! long as I've been to sea.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. lx. Mr. Malone fell upon them HAMMER AND TONGS.

1862. M. E. BRADDON, *Lady Audley's Secret*, ch. iv. 'I always said the old buffer would marry,' he muttered, after about half an hour's reverie. 'Alicia and my lady, the stepmother, will go at it HAMMER AND TONGS.'

1884. JAS. PAYN, *Talk of the Town*, ch. xx. Both parties went at it HAMMER AND TONGS, and hit one another anywhere and with anything.

HAMMER-HEADED, *adj.* (common).  
I. Oafish; stupid.

1600. NASHE, *Summers Last Will* (Grosart), vi., 169. A number of rude Vulcans, vnweldy speakers, HAMMER-HEADED clownes.

2. (colloquial).—Hammer-shaped: *i.e.*, long and narrow in the head.

1865. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend* i., 9. Mr. Boffin's equipage consisted of a long HAMMER-HEADED old horse, formerly used in the business . . . a driver being added in the person of a long HAMMER-HEADED young man.

HAMMERING, *subs.* (pugilistic and colloquial).—I. A beating; excessive PUNISHMENT (*q.v.*).

2. (printers').—Over-charging time-work (as 'corrections').

HAMMERING-TRADE, *subs.* (pugilistic).—Pugilism.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 49. The other, vast, gigantic, as if made, express, by Nature for the HAMMERING trade.

HAMMERSMITH. TO GO TO HAMMERSMITH, *verb. phr.* (common).—To get a sound drubbing.

HAMPERED, *adj.* (old: now recognised).—Let or hindered; perplexed; entangled. [From OLD. ENG., hamper=a fetter: see quot. 1613].

1613. BROWNE, *Britannia's Pastorals*, bk. i., s. 7. Shackles, shacklocks, HAMBERS, givcs and chaincs.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

**HAMPSTEAD DONKEY**, *subs. phr.* (common).—*See* quot. For synonyms, *see* CHATES.

c. 1870. *Daily Paper*. The witness testified to the filthy state of the linen which she wore, and also the state of the sheets. Was told not to get into bed until she had looked for the HAMPSTEAD DONKEYS. 'Did you know what that meant?'—'No sir, not until I looked on the pillow and saw three' (loud laughter). 'Do you mean lice?'—'Yes, sir, I do.'

**HAMPSTEAD-HEATH**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—The teeth. For synonyms, *see* GRINDERS.

1887. *Referee*, 7 Nov., p. 7, c. 3. She'd a Grecian 'I suppose,' And of HAMPSTEAD HEATH two rows, In her 'Sunny South' that glistened Like two pretty strings of pearls.

**HAMPSTEAD-HEATH SAILOR**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A LANDLUBBER (*q.v.*); a FRESHWATER SAILOR (*q.v.*). Fr., *un marin d'eau douce* or *un amiral Suisse* (=a Swiss admiral: Switzerland having no seaboard).

**HANCED**, *adj.* (old).—In liquor. [From HANCE = 'to elevate.'] For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1630. TAYLOR, *Works*. I doe finde my selfe sufficiently HANCED, and that henceforth I shall acknowledge it; and that whensoever I shall offer to bee HANCED again, I shall arme my selfe with the craft of a fox, the manners of a hogge, the wisdom of an asse, mixt with the civility of a beare.

**HAND**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Properly a seaman; now a labourer, a workman, an agent.

1653. PHILLIPS, *New World of Words*, s.v. HAND . . . a Word us'd among Mariners . . . when Men are wanted to do any Labour they usually Call for more HANDS.

1632-1704. LOCKE, *Wks.* A dictionary containing a natural history requires too many HANDS, as well as too much time.

1711. *Spectator*, No. 232. The reduction of the prices of our manufactures by the addition of so many new HANDS, would be no inconvenience to any man.

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, i., 14. The mercantile part of the world, therefore, wisely use the term 'employing HANDS,' and esteem each other as they employ more or fewer.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. We lost a HAND, we lost a sailor.

1871. *Chambers' Miscellany*, No. 113, p. 3. He was admitted as a HAND in an establishment already numbering three hundred active workers.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arny Ballads', p. 70. The HANDS has all bloomin' well struck.

1892. *National Observer*, 22 Oct., vol. viii., p. 571. The dispute in the South-East Lancashire cotton trade is like to result in the stoppage of fourteen or fifteen million spindles which will take employment from sixty thousand HANDS, a fifth of them women and children.

1893. *Fortnightly Review*, Jan., p. 62. The wages paid to the operatives in our woollen industry are, to a marked extent, lower than those received by the HANDS employed in our cotton mills.

2. (coachmen's).—*See* quot.

1856. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Kate Coventry*, ch. xv. Lady Horsingham was tolerably courageous, but totally destitute of what is termed HAND, a quality as necessary in driving as in riding, particularly with fractious or high-spirited horses.

A GOOD (OR COOL, NEAT, OLD, FINE, etc.) HAND, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—An expert.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.), s.v. HAND (*v.*). 'He is a good HAND,' spoke of one that is an artist in some particular mechanical art or trade, etc.



1773. GOLDSMITH, *She Stoops to Conquer*, iii., 1. When I was in my best story of the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, he asked if I had not a GOOD HAND at making punch.

1854. WHYTE MELVILLE, *General Bounce*, xii. A quaint boy at Eton, COOL HAND at Oxford, a deep card in the regiment, man or woman never yet had the best of 'Uppy.'

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, i., p. 33. The new man, the GREEN HAND, takes little or no heed of the entrance of the officers. . . . Not so the OLD HAND.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 195. Ye're a GRAND HAND at the sleeping!

1892. W. E. GLADSTONE, *Times* 'Report.' . . . . This OLD PARLIAMENTARY HAND.

1892. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Deacon Brodie*, i., 7, p. 18. You always was a neat HAND with the bones.

A HAND LIKE A FOOT, *phr.* (common).—A large, coarse hand. Also a vulgar or uneducated handwriting.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Conversation*, i. Col. Whoe'er writ it with a HAND LIKE A FOOT.

A HAND LIKE A FIST, *phr.* (gamesters').—A hand full of trumps. Also (in derision) a hand there's no playing.

TO TAKE A HAND WITH THE OUTSIDE MUSIC, *verb. phr.* (American).—*See* quot.

1892. J. L. SULLIVAN, *A 19th Century Gladiator*, iii. After thirty-seven rounds in fifty-five minutes, the umpires and seconds got into a fight, and Sullivan felt fresh enough TO TAKE A HAND IN THE OUTSIDE MUSIC.

TO GET A HANDON, *verb. phr.* (tailors').—To suspect; to be distrustful.

TO GET ONE'S HAND IN, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To practise with a view to proficiency.

TO GET ONE'S HAND ON IT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To grope a woman.

TO BEAR A HAND, *verb. phr.* (old).—*See* quot.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. BEAR A HAND, make haste.

TO BRING UP BY HAND, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To procure erection manually.

TO BRING DOWN (or OFF) BY HAND, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To masturbate. For synonyms, *see* FRIG.

TO STAND ONE'S HAND, *verb. phr.* (Australian).—TO TREAT (*q.v.*); to STAND SAM (*q.v.*).

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 58. I used to see her at some of the public-houses frequented by Mrs. Condon, STANDING HER HAND liberally to all who happened to be in the bar, and therefore being made much of by the thirsty loafers whom she treated.

TO HAND IN ONE'S CHIPS (or CHECKS).—*See* CASH ONE'S CHECKS.

TO HAVE (or GET) THE UPPER HAND, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To have at an advantage; to get to WINDWARD (*q.v.*).

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 173. I was growing impatient to get back and HAVE THE UPPER HAND of my uncle.

TO HAND UP, *verb.* (Winchester College).—To give information against; to betray.—*Notions.*

HANDS UP! *intj.* (common).—An injunction to desist; STOW IT! (*q.v.*). Also (police) = a command to surrender. BAIL UP (*q.v.*).

1888. J. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 120. HANDS UP! Jerry.

[Amongst other colloquial usages of HAND are the following:—AT HAND= readily, hard by; AT ANY HAND (Shakspeare)=on any account; AT NO HAND= on no account; FOR ONE'S OWN HAND= for one's own purpose or interest; FROM HAND TO HAND=from one to another; IN HAND=in a state of preparation, under consideration, or control; OFF ONE'S HANDS=finished; ON HAND=in possession; IN ONE'S HANDS=in one's care; OUT OF HAND=completed, without hesitation; TO ONE'S HAND=ready; HAND OVER HEAD=negligently, rashly; HAND TO MOUTH=improvident; HANDS OFF!= stand off; HEAVY ON HAND=hard to manage; HOT AT HAND=difficult to manage; LIGHT IN HAND=easy to manage; TO ASK (or GIVE) THE HAND OF =to ask (or give) in marriage; TO BE HAND AND GLOVE WITH =to be very intimate with; TO BEAR A HAND=to help; TO BEAR IN (or ON) HAND=to cheat or mock by false promises; TO CHANGE HANDS=to change owners; TO COME TO HAND=to be received; TO GET HAND =to gain influence; TO GIVE A HAND =to applaud; TO GIVE THE HAND TO=to be reconciled to; TO HAVE A HAND IN=to have a share in; TO HAVE ONE'S HANDS FULL=to be fully occupied; TO HOLD HANDS WITH=to vie with, to hold one's own; TO LAY HANDS ON=to assault, to seize; TO LEND A HAND=to help; TO MAKE A HAND=to gain an advantage; TO PUT (or STRETCH) FORTH THE HAND AGAINST=to use violence; TO SET THE HAND TO =to undertake; TO STRIKE HANDS=to make a bargain; TO TAKE BY THE HAND=to take under one's guidance; TO TAKE IN HAND =to attempt; TO WASH ONE'S HANDS OF =to disclaim responsibility; A HEAVY HAND = severity; A LIGHT HAND = gentleness; A SLACK HAND = idleness, carelessness; A STRICT HAND = severe discipline; CLEAN HANDS=freedom from guilt; TO STAND ONE IN HAND=to concern, to be of importance to; HAND TO FIST = *tête-à-tête*, hip to haunch; HAND OVER HAND = easily; TO GET A HAND = to be applauded.]

**HAND-AND-POCKET SHOP**, *subs. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HAND-AND-POCKET-SHOP. An eating house, where ready money is paid for what is called for.

**HANDBASKET-PORITION**, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HAND-BASKET-PORITION. A woman whose husband receives frequent presents from her father, or family, is said to have a HAND-BASKET-PORITION.

**HANDBINDER** (*in. pl.*), *subs.* (old).—Chains for the wrists. For synonyms, see DARBIES.

1696. RAY, *Nomenclator*, Menotes, liens à lier les mains, fers à enfermer les mains. Manicls, or HANDBINDERS.

**HANDER**, *subs.* (schoolboys').—A stroke on the hand with a cane; A PALMIE (*q.v.*).

1868. JAS. GREENWOOD, *Purgatory of Peter the Cruel*, v., 149. You've been playing the wag, and you've got to take your HANDERS.

**HANDICAP**, *subs.* (colloquial).—An arrangement in racing, etc., by which every competitor is, or is supposed to be, brought on an equality so far as regards his chance of winning by an adjustment of the weights to be carried, the distance to be run, etc. : extra weight or distance being imposed in proportion to their supposed merits on those held better than the others. [A handicap is framed in accordance with the known performances of the competitors, and, in horse-racing, with regard to the age and sex of the entries. The term is derived from the old game of *hand-in-cap*, or *handicap*.]

1660. PEPYS, *Diary*, 18 Sep. Here some of us fell to HANDYCAPP, a sport that I never knew before.

1883. HAWLEY SMART, *Hard Lines* xxi. The race carried so many penalties and allowances that it partook somewhat of the nature of a HANDICAP.

*Verb* (colloquial). 1. To adjust or proportion weights, starts, etc., in order to bring a number of competitors as nearly as possible to an equality.

1841. LEVER, *Charles O'Malley*, ch. lxviii. Pleasant and cheerful enough, when they're HANDICAPPING the coat off your back, and your new tilbury for a spavined pony and a cotton umbrella; but regular devils if you come to cross them the least in life.

2. To make even or level; to equalise between.

3. To embarrass, burden, hinder, or impede in any way.

1883. GRENVILLE-MURRAY, *People I Have Met*, 123. He was not HANDICAPPED by a title, so that the beautiful ethics of hereditary legislation had no claim on his attention.

**HANDIE-DANDIE**, *subs. phr.* (old).—Copulation.

1490-1554. DAVID LYNDSEY, *Kitty's Confessioun* [LAING], i., 136. Ane plack I will gar Sandie, Gie the agane with HANDIE-DANDIE.

**HANDLE**, *subs.* (common).—1. The nose. For synonyms, see CONK.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. The cove flashes a rare HANDLE to his physog; the fellow has a large nose.

1887. *Modern Society*, 27 Aug., 864. A restless, intriguing, and busy old lady, with an immense HANDLE to her face.

2. (colloquial).—A title. Fr., *une queue*, as *Monsieur Sans-queue*=Mr. Nobody.

1855. THACKERAY *Newcomes*, xxiii. She . . . entertained us with stories of colonial governors and their ladies, mentioning no persons but those who had HANDLES to their names, as the phrase is.

1857. DUCANGE *Anglicus, Vulg. Tongue*. HANDLE, *n.* Title. Oh, you want a HANDLE to your name.

1871. *London Figaro*, 17 June, 'The plaint of a poor Parson.' Neither he nor his clerical neighbours—unless they belong to county families, or have HANDLES to their names—have ever been invited by the Dean to partake of the hospitalities of the Deanery.

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*, ch. ii. That's the worst of having a HANDLE to one's name.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 16 Jan. Here's the Honourable Tom Jones, and Lord Smith, and Viscount Brown—that's them, with the HANDLES knocked off their names.

1892. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Deacon Brodie*, i., 2. He was aye etting after a bit HANDLE to his name.

3. (colloquial).—Occasion; opportunity; means.

1753-77. MELMOTH, *Cicero*, bk. ii., let. 17 (note 5). The defence of Vatinius gave a plausible HANDLE for some censure upon Cicero.

*Verb* (cardsharps').—1. To conceal cards in the palm of the hand, or up the sleeves; TO PALM (*q.v.*).

2. (colloquial).—To use; to make use of; to manage.

1606. CHAPMAN, *Gentleman Usher*, iii., 5. Now let the sport begin: I think my love will HANDLE him as well as I have done.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HANDLE. To know how to HANDLE one's fists; to be skilful in the art of boxing.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ii., 7. Smart chap that cabman—HANDLED his fives well.

1892. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Admiral Guinea*, ii., 5. Commander, you HANDLED him like a babby, kept the weather gauge, and hulled him every shot.

TO HANDLE THE RIBBONS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To drive.

1857. MONCRIEFF, *Bashful Man*, ii., 4. Shouldn't have any objection in life, squire, to let you HANDLE THE RIBBANDS for a stage or two, but four-in-hand, you know, requires—.

1872. *Evening Standard*, 10 Aug. The Princess of Wales is expected, and her Royal Highness has several times during the week driven through the town in an open phaeton, drawn by four beautiful ponies, and she appears TO HANDLE THE RIBBONS in a very skilful manner.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 198. It was agreed Marston should HANDLE THE RIBBONS.



1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 32. He 'ANDLED THE RIBBINGS to rights.

TO FLY OFF THE HANDLE.  
See FLY, to which add the following earlier quot.

1825. NEAL, *Brother Jonathan*, bk. I., ch. iv. MOST OFF THE HANDLE, some o' the tribe, I guess.

**HAND-ME-DOWNS** (or **HAND-'EM-DOWNS**), *subs.* (common). — Second-hand clothes. **HAND-ME-DOWN-SHOP**, or **NEVER-TOO-LATE-TO-MEND-SHOP**=a repairing tailors.' Fr., *un decrochez-moi-ça*.

1878. *Notes and Queries*, 5, s. ix., 6 Apr., p. 263. **HAND-'EM-DOWN**—A second-hand garment (Northamptonshire).

1888. *New York World*, 5 Mar. Russell Sage, it is said, walked into a Broadway clothing store the other day and tried on and purchased a twelve-dollar suit of **HAND-ME-DOWNS**.

1889. *Sporting Times*, 29 June. Trousers which fit him nowhere in particular, and which all over proclaim themselves entitled to the epithet of **HAND-ME-DOWN**.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS**.—Reach-me-downs; translations; wall-flowers.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS**. — *La musique* (popular); *la mise-bas* (servants': especially 'perks').

**HAND-OUT**, *subs.* (American). — Food to a tramp at the door.

1887. MORLEY ROBERTS, *The Western Averrus*. Some of the boys said it was a regular **HAND-OUT**, and that we looked like a crowd of old bummers.

**HANDPIECE**, *subs.* (American). — A handkerchief. For synonyms, see WIPE.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 67. Then . . . he tied his white **HAND-PIECES** to an opening made for his purpose on one side of the dashboard.

**HANDSAW**, *subs.* (common). — A street vendor of knives and razors; an itinerant **CHIVE-FENCER** (*q.v.*).

**HANDSOME**, *adj.* and *adv.* (colloquial, and formerly literary). — Sharp, severe; convenient, fit; neat, graceful; dextrous, skilful, ready; ample, generous, liberal; manageable; in good or proper style; and (in America) grand or beautiful.

1553. WILSON, *Arte of Rhetorique*, p. 3. Phaurinus the Philosopher did hit a yong man ouer the thumbes very **HANDSOMELY**.

1553-99. SPENSER, *Wks.* For a thief it is so **HANDSOME**, As it may seem it was first invented by him.

1590. GOLDYNGE, *Cesar*, p. 220. They had not so **HANDSOME** horses.

1593. SHAKSPEARE, *Titus Andronicus*, ii., 3. If we miss to meet him **HANDSOMELY**.

1600. P. HOLLAND, *Livey*, p. 255. A light footman's shield he takes with him, and a Spanish blade by his side, more **HANDSOME** to fight short and close.

1604. SHAKSPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, iv., 3. His garments are rich, but he wears them not **HANDSOMELY**.

1614. RALEIGH, *History of the World*, Bk. III., ch. viii., § 6. Playing their games **HANDSOMELY** against so nimble a wit.

1672-1719. ADDISON, *Wks.* An almshouse, which I intend to endow very **HANDSOMELY**.

1778-79. V. KNOX, *Essays*, 102. A **HANDSOME** sum of money.

1798. LODGE, *Illust. Brit. Hist.*, i., 178. He is very desyrus to serve your Grace, and seymes to me to be a very **HANDSOME** man.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 8. He turned on his back **HANDSOME**.

TO DO THE HANDSOME (or THE HANDSOME THING, *verb. phr.* (common). — To behave extremely well; to be 'civil.'

1887. MANVILLE FENN, *This Man's Wife*, ii., 15. Sir Gordon's ready TO DO THE HANDSOME THING.

HANDSOME IS THAT HANDSOME DOES, *phr.* (colloquial).—'Actions, not words, are the test of merit'; also ironically of ill-favoured persons.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. HANDSOME IS THAT HANDSOME DOES: a proverb frequently cited by ugly women.

HANDSOME-BODIED IN THE FACE, *adv. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HANDSOME BODIED MAN IN THE FACE, a eering commendation of an ugly fellow.

HANDSOME AS A LAST YEAR'S CORPSE, *adv. phr.* (American).—A sarcastic compliment.

HANDSOMELY! *intj.* (nautical).—Gently! A cry to signify smartly, but carefully. Also HANDSOMELY OVER THE BRICKS = Go cautiously.

HANDSOME-REWARD, *subs. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. HANDSOME-REWARD. This, in advertisements, means a horse-whipping.

HANDSPRINGS. TO CHUCK HANDSPRINGS, *verb phr.* (common).—To turn somersaults.

HANDSTAFF, *subs.* (venery).—The penis. For synonyms, see CREAM-STICK and PRICK. [From that member of the flail which is held in the hands].

HANDY. HANDY AS A POCKET IN A SHIRT, *phr.* (American).—Very convenient.

HANDY-BLOWS, (or CUFFS), *subs.* (old).—Cuffs with the hand; fisticuffs; hence close quarters.

1603. KNOLLES, *Hist. of the Turkes*. If ever they came to HANDY-BLOWS.

1690. B. E., *Cant. Crew*, s.v. HANDY BLOWS, Fisticuffs.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

HANDY-MAN, *subs.* (colloquial).—A servant or workman doing odd jobs.

1847. DE QUINCEY, *The Spanish Military Nun*, Wks. (1890), xiii., 165. She was a HANDY GIRL. She could turn her hand to anything.

1872. *Times*, 27 Aug. 'Autumn Manœuvres.' The result is he cannot be called a HANDY-MAN.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 8 Nov., p. 2, c. 1. Again did Mr. Sambourne's HANDY-MAN appear, this time clad in the real robes of the Lord Mayor.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 55. He was a HANDY-MAN.

HANG, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. The general drift, tendency, or bent: as in TO GET THE HANG OF = to get conversant with; to acquire the trick, or knack, or knowledge of.

1847. DARLEY, *Drama in Poker-ville*, p. 67. The theatre was cleared in an instant . . . all running to GET THE HANG OF the scrape.

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. 70. By this time I began to GIT THE HANG OF the place a little better.

1851. HOOPER, *Widow Rugby's Husband*, etc., p. 64. To be efficient a solicitor must GET THE HANG OF his customers.

a. 1871. PRIME, *Hist. of Long Island*, p. 82. If ever you must have an indifferent teacher for your children, let it be after they have got a fair start and have ACQUIRED THE HANG OF the tools for themselves.

1884. MILLIKEN, *Punch*, 11 Oct. They ain't GOT THE 'ANG OF it, Charlie the toffs ain't.

1890. *Daily Chronicle*, 4 Apr., p. 7 c. 2. When the Raw Cadet enters Woolwich Academy, it is sometime before he GETS what some call THE HANG OF the place.

1892. *Illustrated Bits*, Oct. 22, p. 6. c. 2. When I GET THE HANG of them I shall be a regular dab at theosophy.

2. (colloquial).—A little bit; a bit; a DAMN. See CARE. Fr., *s'en contreficher* or *s'en tamponner le coquard* (or *coquillard*).

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. xliii. She looks as well as you by candle-light, but she can't ride a HANG.

*Verb* (generally HANG IT!).—An exclamation of vexation, disgust, or disappointment; also, more forcibly, a euphemism for DAMN IT! Fr., *Ah! mince alors*.

1598. SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, ii., 4. He a good wit? HANG HIM, baboon!

1609. JONSON, *Epicæne*, ii., 2. A mere talking mole, HANG HIM.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, v. 3. Ay, and BE HANGED.

1694. DUNTON, *Ladies' Dict.*, p. 229. Aristænetus telling a brisk buxom Lass of a proper fine Man that would make her a good Husband, HANG HIM [reply'd she] he has no Mony.

1772. COLES, *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, s.v. Hanged. GO AND BE HANGED.

1780. MRS. COWLEY, *Belle's Stratagem*, iv., 1. HANG Harriet, and Charlotte, and Maria! the name your father gave ye?

1823. W. T. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 5. HANG cards! bring me a bobstick of rum slim.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 169. 'You BE HANGED, Felix,' quoth his ally, with a most quizzical grin.

1863. CH. READE, *Hard Cash*, ii., 218. HANG the grub; it turns my stomach.

1883. R. L. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, p. 161. You can GO HANG!

1889. *Sporting Times*, 6 July. *Hebrew Scholar*: Rub up your Hebrew. Or GO AND HANG yourself.

1890. GRANT ALLEN, *Tents of Shem*, ch. xvii. HANG IT ALL, if that's English law, you know, I don't thing very much of the wisdom of our ancestors.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 164. HANG IT ALL.

1892. MILLIKEN, *Arry Ballads*, p. 7. But 'ANG IT, I can't stand the style of the silent and the stare-me-down sort.

1892. F. ANSTEV, *Voces Populi*, 'On the Ice,' p. 122. Stick by me, old fellow, till I begin to feel my — Oh, HANG IT ALL!

TO HANG AN ARSE, *verb. phr.* (old).—To hang back; to hesitate.

1598. MARSTON, *Satyres*, 'Ad Rythmum.' But if you HANG AN ARSE like Tubered, When Chremes dragged him from his brothel bed.

1637. MASSINGER, *Guardian*, v, 5. Nay, no HANGING AN ARSE.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, ii., 86. Nay, if it HANG AN ARSE, We'll pluck it from the stares, And roast it at hell for its grease.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Roderick Random*, ch. lxxv. My lads, I'm told you HANG AN ARSE.

1780. TOMLINSON, *Slang Pastoral*, 2. My ARSE HANGS behind me as heavy as lead.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

TO HANG IN, *verb. phr.* (common).—To get to work; to do one's best; to WIRE IN (*q.v.*).

TO HANG IN THE BELLROPEs, *verb. phr.* (common).—To defer marriage after being 'asked' in church.

TO HANG ON BY ONE'S EYE-LASHES, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To persist at any cost, and in the teeth of any discouragement.

TO HANG ON BY THE SPLASH-BOARD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To 'catch' a tram, omnibus, etc., when it is on the move; hence to succeed by the 'skin of one's teeth.' Fr., *arcipincer l'omnibus*.

TO HANG AROUND (OR ABOUT), *verb. phr.* (American).—To loiter; to loaf; to haunt.



TO HANG OUT, *verb* (common).—To live; to reside. Also (*subs.*), a residence; a lodging; and (American university) a feast; an entertainment.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HANG OUT. The traps scavey where we HANG OUT; the officers know where we live.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxx. 'I say, old boy, where do you HANG OUT?' Mr. Pickwick replied that he was at present suspended at the George and Vulture.

1852. BRISTED, *Five Years in an English University*, p. 80. The fourth of July I celebrated by a HANG-OUT.

1871. *City Press*, 21 Jan. 'Curiosities of Street Literature.' He HANGS OUT in Monmouth-court.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 14. I should like to go in for blue blood, and 'ANG OUT near the clubs and the parks.

TO HANG OUT A SHINGLE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To start or carry on business.

1871. *Public Opinion*, Dec. Tom Stowell HUNG OUT HIS SHINGLE as a lawyer at the Tombs, afterwards at Essex-market, and eventually in Brooklyn.

TO HANG ONE'S LATCHPAN, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be dejected; to pout. Fr., *faire son aquilin*.

TO HANG IT OUT, *verb. phr.* (common).—To skulk; TO MIKE (*q.v.*).

TO HANG UP, *verb. phr.* (common).—I. To give credit; to score (or chalk) up: said of a reckoning. Also 'to put on the slate' or (American) ON THE ICE (*q.v.*).

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HANG-UP, speaking of the Reckoning at a Bowsing-Ken, when the Rogues are obliged, for want of Money, to run on Tick.

1785. GROSE, *Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

2. (American).—To bear in mind; to remember.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HANG IT UP. Think of it, remember it.

3. (American).—To pawn, For synonyms, *see* POP.

4. (thieves').—To rob with violence on the street; TO HOLD UP (*q.v.*). Fr., *la faire au père François*.

5. (common).—To be *in extremis*; to know not which way to turn for relief: e.g., A MAN HANGING=one to whom any change must be for the better.

6. (colloquial).—To postpone; to leave undecided.

1887. *Cornhill Magazine*, June, p. 624. TO HANG UP A BILL is to pass it through one or more of its stages, and then to lay it aside, and defer its further consideration for a more or less indefinite period.

TO HANG ON, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—(1) To sponge; and (2) to pursue an individual or a design.

1601. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry VIII.*, iii., 2. Oh, how wretched is that poor man that HANGS ON princes' favours!

TO HANG OFF, *verb. phr.* (printers').—To fight shy of.

TO HANG UP ONE'S FIDDLE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To retire; to desist. TO HANG UP ONE'S FIDDLE ANYWHERE=To adapt oneself to circumstances.

TO HANG UP ONE'S HAT, *verb. phr.* (common).—I. To die. For synonyms, *see* ALOFT.

1854. *Notes and Queries*, Vol. X., p. 203. He has HUNG UP HIS HAT. This sentence, which is sometimes used in reference to persons deceased, etc.

1882. *Punch*, lxxxii., 185, c. 1.

2. (common).—To make oneself permanently at home.

**HANG-BLUFF**, *subs.* (rhyming).—Snuff.

1857. DUCANGE *ANGLICUS*, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**HANG-BY**, *subs.* (old).—A hanger-on; a parasite; a companion.

1598. JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, iv., 2. I am not afraid of you nor them neither, you HANG-EYES here.

**HANG-DOG**, *subs.* (old).—A pitiful rascal, only fit for the rope or the hanging of superfluous curs. *Cf.* GALLOWS-BIRD.

1732. FIELDING, *Mock Doctor*, i., 4. Heaven has inspired me with one of the most wonderful inventions to be revenged on my HANG-DOG.

*Adj.* (old).—Vile, or suspicious, in aspect; GALLOWS-LOOKING (*q.v.*).

**HANG-GALLOWS**, *adj.* (old).—*See* quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HANG-GALLOWS Look, a thievish, or villainous appearance.

**HANGER**, *subs.* (old).—A side-arm—short sword or cutlass—hanging from the girdle. [*See* HANGERS, *in. pl.*, sense 1.]

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, x. A couteau de chase, or short HANGER.

*In. pl.* (old).—I. Ornamental loops from the girdle to suspend the sword and dagger.

1596. SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, v. 2. Six French rapiers and poignards, with their assigns, as girdle, HANGERS, and so on.

1596. NASHE, *Unf. Trav.* [Chiswick Press, 1891]. Huge HANGERS that have half a cowhide in them.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man out of his Humour*, iv., 4. I had thrown off the HANGERS a little before.

1610. JONSON, *Alchemist*, v., 2. Where be the French petticoats, And girdles and HANGERS?

2. (common).—Gloves; specifically gloves in the hand.

3. *See* POTHOOKS.

**HANG-IN-CHAINS**, *subs. phr.* (old).—*See* quotes.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HANG-IN-CHAINS, a vile desperate fellow.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. HANG-IN-CHAINS. A vile, desperate fellow. Persons guilty of murder, or other atrocious crimes, are frequently, after execution, hanged on a gibbet, to which they are fastened by iron bandages; the gibbet is commonly placed on or near the place where the crime was committed.

**HANGING**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Fit for the halter.

**HANGING-BEE**, *subs.* (American).—A gathering of lynch-lawmongers, bent on the application of the rope. *See* BEE.

**HANGING JOHNNY**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—*The penis*: specifically, in a condition of impotence or disease. For synonyms, *see* CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**HANGMAN**, *subs.* (old).—A jocular endearment.

1600. SHAKSPEARE, *Much Ado About Nothing*, iii., 2. He had twice or thrice cut Cupid's bowstring, and the little HANGMAN dare not shoot at him.

**HANGMAN'S-DAY**, *subs.* (old).—Monday, and (in America) Friday.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HANGMAN'S DAY. Friday is so called from the custom of hanging people on a Friday.

**HANGMAN'S-WAGES**, *subs.* (old).—Thirteen-pence-halfpenny. [The fee for an execution was a Scots

mark: the value of which piece was settled, by a proclamation of James I., at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.]

1602. DECKER, *Honest Whore*, Pt. II., in *Wks.* (1873) ii., 171. Why should I cate hempe-seed at the HANGMAN'S THIRTEENE-PENCEHALFE-PENNY ordinary?

1659. *Hangman's Last Will* (Rump Song quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 2 S. xi., 316). For half THIRTEENE-PENCE HALFPENNY WAGES, I would have cleared out all the town cages, And you should have been rid of all the sages. I and my gallows groan.

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, Pt. III., c. 2. To find us pillories and cart's-tails, Or HANGMAN'S WAGES.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HANGMAN'S WAGES, thirteence halfpenny, which according to the vulgar tradition was thus allotted, one shilling for the execution, and three halfpence for the rope.

**HANG-SLANG ABOUT**, *verb. phr.* (common).—To abuse; TO SLANG (*q.v.*); TO BILLINGSGATE (*q.v.*).

**HANK**, *subs.* (old colloquial).—I. A tie; a hold; an advantage; a difficulty. [IN A HANK = in trouble].

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. He has a HANK upon him, or the Ascendant over him.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. He has a HANK upon him; He . . . will make him do what he pleases.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. He has a HANK on him, *i.e.*, an ascendant over him, or a hold upon him: A SMITHFIELD HANK, = An ox rendered furious by over driving and barbarous treatment.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HANK. To know something about a man that is disreputable. He has a HANK on the bloke, whereby he sucks honey when he chooses, he knows something about the man, and therefore induces him to give him money when he chooses.

2. (common).—A spell of rest; an easy time.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 7 Dec. So quiet was the first round that the ire of the company was raised, and they called out, 'No HANK!'

*Verb* (common).—To worry; to bait; to drive from pillar to post.

**HANKER**, *verb* (old: now recognised).—To desire eagerly; to fret after; to long or pine for: generally with 'after.' Also, HANKERING (*subs.*) = an importunate and irritating longing.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HANKER AFTER, to Long or wish much for.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. To HANKER AFTER anything, to have a longing after or for it.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 98. I did see a creature' once, named Sofy Mason . . . that I tuk an orful HANKER-IN' ARTER.

1878. WHITMAN, *Leaves of Grass*, 'Spontaneous Me,' 90 (ed. 1884). The hairy wild-bee that murmurs and HANKERS up and down.

**HANKIN**, *subs.* (commercial).—The trick of putting off bad work for good. [*Cf.* TO PLAY HANKEY, or TO PLAY HANKY-PANKY.]

**HANKTELO**, *subs.* (old).—See *quots.*

1593. NASH, *Strange Newes* (Grosart, *Wks.*, ii., 251). Is the Astrologicaall Discourse a better booke than Pierce Pennilesse? Gabriel HANGTELOW saies it is?

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HANKTELO, a silly Fellow, a meer Cods-head.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HANKY-PANKY**, *subs.* (common).—(1) Legerdemain; whence (2) trickery; UNDERHAND (*q.v.*) work; cheating; any manner of



double-dealing or intrigue. HANKY-PANKY BUSINESS = conjuring; HANKY - PANKY WORK (or TRICKS) = double-dealing. A BIT OF HANKY-PANKY = a trick; a piece of knavery.

1841. *Punch*, Vol. I., p. 88. Only a little HANKY-PANKY.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *Zeph*, ch. xiii. He knew that . . . any crime committed on his premises would tell against him on licensing day, and he kept a pretty sharp look out to see that what he was pleased to term HANKY PANKY was not carried on under his nose.

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. xxxviii. If there was any HANKY PANKY, any mystery I mean, he'd always swear he was out whenever he called, for fear it should be bullied out of him.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. v., p. 323. —There's some HANKY PANKY business going on among the men of No. 2 prison; the Catholic side is ringing changes and it is done in this shop.

**HANKY-PANKY-BLOKE**, *subs. phr.* (theatrical).—A conjuror; a PILE OF MAGS (*q.v.*).

**HANKY-SPANKY**, *adj.* (common).—Dashing; NOBBY (*q.v.*). Specifically of well-cut clothes.

**HANNAH**. THAT'S THE MAN AS MARRIED HANNAH, *phr.* (streets'). —'That's the thing': used of a thing well begun and well ended; or as an expressive of certainty. Varied sometimes by THAT'S WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HANNAH.

**HANS CARVEL'S RING**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYL-LABLE. [From Poggio (tit. *Annulus*); *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles* (xi); Ariosto (*Sat.* v.); the *Nouvelle* of Malespini (89, ii.); Rabelais (*Pantagruel*, iii., 28); and Matthew Prior.]

**HANSEL** (or **HANDESEL**) *subs.* (common).—The first money taken in the morning; lucky money. Hence, earnest money; first-fruits, &c. HANSEL-MONDAY = the first Monday in the new year, when presents were received by children and servants. [A.S., *handselen* = to deliver into the hand.]

1587. GREENE, *Menaphon* (Arber), p. 71. He should like inough haue had first HANSELL of our new Shepheards sheepehookes.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii. Bring him a sixpenny bottle of ale: They say a fool's HANDESEL is lucky.

1679. HOLLAND, *Ammianus Marcellinus*. With which wofull tidings being sore astonished, as if it were the first HANSELL and beginning of evils comming toward him.

1787. GROSE, *Prov. Glossary*, etc. (1811), p. 121. It is a common practice among the lower class of hucksters, pedlars, or dealers in fruit or fish, on receiving the price of the first goods sold that day, which they call HANSEL, to spit on the money, as they term it, for good luck.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. iii. There was a whin bonnie lasses there, forbye mysel', and deil aie to gie them HANSELS. *Ibid.*, ch. xxxii. Grizzy has naething frae me, by twa pair o' new shoon ilka year, and maybe a bit compliment at HANSEL MONANDAY.

1821. SCOTT, *Kenilworth*, ch. xix. 'How wears the Hollands you won of me?' 'Why, well, as you may see, Master Goldthred, answered Mike; 'I will bestow a pot on thee for the HANDESEL.'

**Verb** (common).—I. To give handsel to; also (2), to use for the first time.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stufte*, in *Wks.*, v., 249. And gather about him as flocking to HANSELL him and strike him good luck.

1605. CHAPMAN, etc., *Eastward Hoe*, ii. My lady . . . is so ravished with desire to HANSELL her new coach.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, i. [1662], 137. Belike he meant to HANSELL his New Satten.

1663. PEPYS, *Diary*, 12 Apr. Coming home to-night, a drunken boy was carrying by our constable to our new pair of stocks to HANSEL them.

1874. [G. A. LAWRENCE], *Hagarene*, ch. xvii. The habit of stout blue cloth . . . was Pete Harradine's last and crowning extravagance, as they passed through town on their way to Fulmerstone, and it had never been HANSELLED yet.

1881. BESANT and RICE, *Sweet Nelly*, in *Ten Years' Tenant*, etc., Vol. I., p. 200. I wanted to present her with something to HANSEL friendship.

**HANSELLER**, *subs.* (common).—A street vendor; a Cheap Jack.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 392. The sellers of tins, who carry them under their arms, or in any way on a round, apart from the use of a vehicle, are known as HAND-SELLERS.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 10. Cheap-Jacks, as they were then as now called by the people, although the term HAN-SELLER is mostly used by themselves.

**HANS-EN-KELDER**, *subs.* (old).—A child in the womb: literally, JACK-IN-THE-CELLAR (*q.v.*). [From the Dutch.]

1647. CLEAVELAND, *Character of a London Diurnall*. The originall sinner in this kind was Dutch; Galliobelgicus, the Protoplast; and the moderne Mercuries, but HANS-EN-KELDERS. The countesse of Zealand was brought to bed of an almanack; as many children as dayes in the yeare.

1648. *Mercurius Pragmaticus*, i. The birthday of that precious new government which is yet but a HANS-EN-KELDER.

d.1658. LOVEFACE, *Poems*, p. 63. Next beg I to present my duty To pregnant sister in prime beauty, Whom [who] well I deem (ere few months elder) Will take out HANS FROM pretty KELDER.

1663. DRYDEN, *Wild Gallant*, v., *Wks.*, i. 61 (1701). Seems you are desirous I should Father this HANS EN KELDER here.

1672. MARVELL, *Char. of Holland*, line 65. More pregnant then their Marg'ret, that laid down For HANS-IN-KELDER of a whole Hanse town.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HANS-EN-KELDER, Jack in the Box, the Child in the Womb, or a Health to it.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, v. Then I am as it were a grandfather to your new Wiffe's, HANS EN KELDER.

1678. T. BAKER, *Tunbridge Wells*, p. 27. Here's a health to this Lady's HANS IN KELDER!

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HANS IN KELDER, a health frequently drank to breeding women, or their husbands.

**HANSOM**, *subs.* (coster).—A chop.

**HAP-HARLOT**, *subs.* (old).—A coarse stuff to make rugs or coverlets with; a rug. *Cf.* WRAP-RASCAL = an overcoat.

1577-87. HOLINSHED, *Description of England*, bk. ii., ch. xii. A sheet vnder couerlets made of dagswain, or HAP-HARLOTS (I vse their owne termes).

**HA'PORTH O' COPPERS**, *subs. phr.* (legal).—Habeas Corpus.

**HA'PORTH OF LIVELINESS**, *subs. phr.* (Coster).—I. Music.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 21. Or they will call to the orchestra, saying, 'Now then you catgut-scrapers! Let's have a HA'PORTH OF LIVELINESS.'

2. (common).—A loitering Lawrence; a SLOWCOACH (*q.v.*).

**HAPPIFY**, *verb.* (American).—To please.

1612. SYLVESTER, *Lach. Lach.*, 642. One short mishap for ever HAPPIFIES.

1848. BURTON, *Waggeries*, etc., p. 70. For eatin' and drinkin', it HAPPIFIES me to say that we bang the bush.

**HAPPY**, *adj.* (common).—Slightly drunk; ELEVATED (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

**HAPPY-DESPATCH**, *subs.* (common).

—Death, specifically, a sudden or violent end.

**HAPPY-DOSSER**. See DOSSER.**HAPPY ELIZA**, *subs.* (common).—

A female Salvationist [As in the *Broadside Ballad* (1887-8), 'They call me Happy Eliza, and I'm Converted Jane : We've been two hot'uns in our time.']

**HAPPY-FAMILY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—

See quot.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab' and Lond. Poor*, iii., p. 224. HAPPY FAMILIES, or assemblages of animals of diverse habits and propensities living amicably, or at least quietly, in one cage.

**HAPPY-GO-LUCKY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—

Careless ; thoughtless ; improvident. Fr., *va comme je te pousse* and *à la flan*.

1856. READE, *Never Too Late to Mend*, ch. xv. In the HAPPY-GO-LUCKY way of his class.

1883. *Illust. London News*, 8 Dec., p. 551, c. 1. He dashes off a play in a HAPPY-GO-LUCKY style, basing it on theatrical precedent so far as certain stock situations are concerned.

**HAPPY HUNTING-GROUNDS**, *subs.*

(American).—1. The future state ; GLORY (*q.v.*). [From the North-American Indian's conception of heaven.]

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 98. After a long journey, they will reach the HAPPY HUNTING-GROUNDS.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, ch. v. Old Mescal is now keeping a sharp eye out for the child and the cowboy, that he may send them to the HAPPY HUNTING-GROUNDS also.

2. (colloquial).—A favourable place for work or play.

1892. *Cassell's Sat. Journal*, 26 Oct., p. 119. The HAPPY HUNTING-GROUND of the swell mobman is the opening of some Exhibition.

3. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**HAPPY-LAND**, *subs.* (common).—

The after life ; GLORY (*q.v.*).

1893. DANVERS, *The Grantham Mystery*, ch. xiii. The old 'un will soon join the young 'un in the HAPPY LAND.

**HAPPY-RETURNS**, *subs.* (Australian).

—Vomiting. See FLAY THE FOX.

**HARBOUR**, *subs.* (venery).—

The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. Also HARBOUR OF HOPE.

**HARD**, *subs.* (prison).—1. Hard labour.

1890. *Globe*, 26 Feb., p. 1, c. 4. Monetary penalties, therefore, do not act as deterrents, but the certainty of seven days' incarceration, with or without HARD, would soon diminish the nuisance.

2. See HARD-SHELL.

3. (colloquial).—Third-class. As opposed to SOFT (*q.v.*). Thus : 'Do you go HARD or SOFT ?' = 'Do you go Third or First ?' An abbreviation of HARD-ARSE.

*Adj.* (American).—1. Applied to metal of all kinds : *e.g.*, HARD (COLE or STUFF) = silver or gold as compared to cheques or SOFT (*q.v.*).

1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, ii., ch. 18. The bill . . . amounted to one dollar and a quarter HARD MONEY.

1844. *Puck*, p. 146. That cunning old file wont let her go with the HARD CASH down.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HARD ; metal.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HARD COLE. Silver or gold money.

1863. CHARLES READE, *Hard Cash*. [Title.]



2. (old : now recognised).—1. Sour or souring; as in **HARD-CIDER**; (2) **HARD** drinks (American) = intoxicating liquors, as wine, ale, etc., while lemonade, soda-water, ginger-beer, etc., are **SOFT**.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HARD DRINK**, that is very Stale, or beginning to Sower.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. **HARD**, stale beer nearly sour, is said to be **HARD**.

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 10 Oct., p. 5, c. 3. A fourth defendant, in pleading guilty, urged that the month of August last 'turned a lot of beer sour,' and that he had only used some sugar for the purpose of mollifying the **HARD** or sour porter.

**HARD AS A BONE** (**NAILS**, etc.), *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Very hard; austere; unyielding.

1885. *Indoor Paupers*, p. 79. He stood it for a week or two without flinching—being at that date **HARD AS NAILS**, as he expresses it.

**HARD AT IT**, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Very busy; in the thick of a piece of work.

**TO DIE HARD**, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To sell one's life dearly; e.g., The **DIE-HARDS** (*q.v.*), the 59th Regiment, so called from their gallantry at Albuera.

**TO GIVE HARD FOR SOFT**, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. See **GREENS**.

**TO BE HARD HIT**. See **HARD-HIT**.

[**HARD**, *adj.*, is used in many combinations; generally with an unpleasant intention. Thus, **HARD-ARSED** (or **FISTED**, or **HANDED**)=very niggardly; **HARD-BIT** (or **HARD-MOUTHFUL**)=an unpleasant experience; **HARD-DRIVEN** (or **HARD-RUN**)=sore bested; **HARD-FACED** (or **FAVOUR**ED, or **FEATURED**)=grim, shrewish, or bony; **HARD-HEADED** (or **HARD-WITTED**)=shrewd and intelligent, but unimaginative and unsympathetic; **HARD-HEARTED**=incapable of pity; **HARD-LIPPED**=obstinate, dour

**HARD-MASTER**=a nigger-driver; **HARD-NUT**=a dangerous antagonist; **HARD-ON**=pitiless in severity; **HARD-RIDING**=selfish and reckless equestration; **HARD-SERVICE**=the worst kind of employment; **HARD-WROUGHT**=overworked, etc., etc.]

**HARD-A-WEATHER**, *adj.* (nautical).—Tough; weather-proof.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 44. They were **HARD-A-WEATHER** fellows.

**HARD-BAKE**, *subs.* (schoolboys').—A sweetmeat made of boiled brown sugar or treacle with blanched almonds.

1825. HONE, *Every-day Bk.*, I, 51. **HARDBAKE**, brandy-balls, and bull's-eyes.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ii. The commodities exposed for sale in the public streets are marine stores, **HARD-BAKE**, apples, etc.

**HARD-BAKED**, *adj.* (old).—1. Constipated.

1823. JON BEE, *Dict. of Turf*, s.v.

2. (common).—Stern; unflinching; strong.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 73. It's my opinion, these squirtish kind a fellars ain't peticular **HARD-BAKED**.

**HARD-BARGAIN** (or **CASE**), *subs.* (common).—1. A lazy fellow; a **BAD-EGG** (*q.v.*); a skulker. **ONE OF THE QUEEN'S HARD-BARGAINS**=a bad soldier.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 71. La Bonté had lost all traces of civilised humanity, and might justly claim to be considered as **HARD A CASE** as any of the mountaineers then present.

1883. LYNCH, *Mountain Mystery*, ch. xliii. A fellow who comes and goes between here and Rockville, generally considered a **HARD CASE**, and believed to be more outlaw than miner.

2. (trade).—A defaulting debtor.

3. (nautical).—A brutal mate or officer. Also **HARD-HORSE**.

**HARD-BIT** (or BIT OF HARD), *subs.* (venery). — 1. The *penis* in erection; whence (2), for women, the act of connection.

**HARD-BITTEN**, *adj.* (colloquial). — Resolute; GAME (*q.v.*); desperate.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, liii. My sooth, they'll be HARD-BITTEN terriers will worrie Dandie.

**HARD-CHEESE**, *subs.* (Royal Military Academy). — Hard lines; bad luck; specifically at billiards.

**HARD-COLE**. See HARD and COLE.

**HARD-DOINGS**, *subs.* (American). — 1. Rough fare; and (2) hard work.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 37. HARD DOINGS when it comes to that.

**HARD-DRINKING**, *subs.* (old: now recognized). — Drinking to excess.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HARD-DRINKING, excessive Soking, or topping abundance.

**HARD-HEAD**, *subs.* (American). — A man of good parts, physical, intellectual, or moral.

1824. R. B. PEAKE, *Americans Abroad*, i., 1. *Don*. None of your flouting, by jumping jigs, I won't stand it — we Americans have got HARD HEADS — we warn't brought up in the woods to be scart at by an owl — you can't scare me so.

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 110. Most of the passengers had disappeared for the night, and only a knot of HARD-HEADS were left upon deck.

**HARD-HIT**. TO BE HARD HIT, *verb phr.* (colloquial). — 1. To have experienced a heavy loss; as over a race, at cards, etc.

2. (colloquial). — To be deeply in love; completely GONE ON (*q.v.*).

1888. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED, *Ladies' Gallery*, ch. xxv. The wound was keen, I had been HIT HARD.

1891. M. E. BRADDON, *Gerard*, p. 312. You've been HARD HIT.

**HARD-LINES**, *subs.* (colloquial). — Hardship; difficulty; an unfortunate result or occurrence. [Formerly LINE=lot: Cf., Bible and Prayer book version of Psalm xvi., 5, 6.]

1855. *Notes and Queries*, 1 S. xii., p. 287. HARD LINES. Whence is this expression, so common, particularly among seafaring men, derived?

1881. W. BLACK, *Beautiful Wretch*, ch. xxiii. I think it's deuced HARD LINES to lock up a fellow for merely humbugging an old parson up in Kentish Town.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 15 Dec. For the Kempton folks it was rather HARD LINES.

1888. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED, *Ladies' Gallery*, ch. xxvi. It's awful HARD LINES, Lady Star Strange, that I am only thought good enough for you Londoners in the dead season.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 3. I call it 'ARD LINES, dear old man.

**HARD-MOUTHED**, *adj.* (colloquial). — Difficult to deal with; wilful; obstinate. Also coarse in speech. [From the stable.]

1686. DURFEY, *Commonw. of Wordes*, i., 1. [Speaking of a girl.] I hate your young Wechees, Skitish Colts — they are so HARD MOUTH'D, there's no dealing with em.

1704. SWIFT, *Tale of a Tub*, Sect. ix. I myself, the author of these momentous truths, am a person, whose imaginations are HARD-MOUTHED, and exceedingly disposed to run away with his reason.

1704. SWIFT, *Operation of the Spirit*, Sect. ii., par. 9. The flesh . . . when it comes to the turn of being bearer, is wonderfully headstrong and HARD-MOUTHED.

**HARD-NECK**, *subs.* (tailors'), — Brazen impudence, MONUMENTAL CHEFK (*q.v.*).

**HARD-ON**, *adj. phr.* (venery).—Prick-proud. For synonyms, *see* HORN.

**HARD-PAN**, *subs. phr.* (American).—The lowest point; BED-ROCK (*q.v.*).

1882. BESANT, *All Sorts and Conditions of Men*, ch. xxi. And as for business, it's got down to the HARD PAN, and dollars are skurce.

1861. HOLMES, *Elsie Venner*, ch. viii. Mr. Silas Peckham had gone a little deeper than he meant, and came upon the HARD-PAN, as the well-diggers call it, of the Colonel's character, before he thought of it.

1888. *Missouri Republican*, 2 Mar. Prices were at HARD-PAN.

TO GET DOWN TO HARD-PAN, *verb. phr.* (American).—I. To buckle to; to get to business.

**HARD-PUNCHER**, *subs.* (common).—The fur cap of the London rough; formerly worn by men in training; a modification of the Scotch cap with a peak. [From the nickname of a noted pugilist.]

**HARD-PUSHED**, *adv.* (colloquial).—In difficulties; HARD-UP (*q.v.*).

a. 1871. *Perils of Pearl Street*, p. 123. As I said, at the end of six months we began to be HARD-PUSHED. Our credit, however, was still fair.

**HARD PUT TO**, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—In a difficulty, monetary or other; *e.g.*, He'd be HARD PUT TO IT to find a sovereign (or a word, or an excuse)=It would take him all his time, etc.

**HARD-ROW**. *See* ROW.

**HARD-RUN**, *adj.* (colloquial).—In want of money; HARD-UP (*q.v.*).

**HARD-SHELL**, *subs.* (American).—A member of an extreme section of Baptists holding very strict and rigid views. [The SOFT-SHELLS are of more liberal mind.] Also HARDs and SOFTs.

1848. JONES, *Sketches of Travel*, p. 30. The old HARD-SHELL laid about him like eath.

1888. *Baltimore Sun*. Mr. E., a regular member of the HARD-SHELL Baptist Church.

1893. STEVENSON, *Island Night's Entertainments*, p. 35. He's a HARD-SHELL Baptist is Papa.

2. (political American).—A division of the Democratic Party in 1846-48, when the HUNKERS (*q.v.*) received the name of HARDs, and their opponents, the BARN-BURNERS (*q.v.*) that of SOFTs.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 91. HARDs, softs, whigs and Tylerites were represented.

*Adj.* (American).—Extremely orthodox; unyielding; hide-bound.

**HARD-STUFF**, *subs.* (American).—I. Money.

2. (Australian).—Intoxicating liquors; *see* HARD (*adj.* sense 2). For synonyms *see* DRINKs.

**HARD-TACK**, *subs.* (nautical).—I. Ship's biscuits; specifically, ordinary sea-fare as distinguished from food ashore, or SOFT-TOMMY (*q.v.*).

1841. LEVER, *Charles O'Malley*, ch. lxxxviii. No more HARD-TACK, thought I, no salt butter, but a genuine land breakfast.

1889. *Lippincott*, Oct., p. 476. They have feasted on salt horse and HARD-TACK many a day; but they know a good thing when they find it.

2 (common).—Coarse or insufficient fare.



**HARD-UP**, *subs.* (common).—1. A collector of cigar ends, a **TOPPER-HUNTER**. [Which refuse, untwisted and chopped up, is sold to the very poor.] Sometimes **HARD-CUT**. Fr., *un mégottier*.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 5. The cigar-end finders, or **HARD-UPS**, as they are called, who collect the refuse pieces of smoked cigars from the gutters, and having dried them, sell them as tobacco to the very poor.

1888. *Tit Bits*, 24 March, 373. Smoking **HARD-UP** is picking up the stumps of cigars thrown away in the streets, cutting them up, and smoking them in the pipe.

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 26 Mar. A constable on duty on the Embankment early in the morning saw the accused prowling about, and on asking what he was doing, received the reply that he was looking for **HARD CUT**.—Mr. Vaughan: Looking for what?—The Prisoner: **HARD-CUT**; dropped cigar-ends.

2. (common).—A poor man; a **STONY-BROKE** (*q.v.*).

1857. DUCANGE ANGLICUS, *Vulg. Tongue*. **HARD-UP**, a poor person.

*Adv. phr.* (colloquial).—1. Very badly in want of money; in urgent need of anything. Also **HARD-RUN** and **HARD-PUSHED**.

1800-41. TH. HOOK, *The Sutherland's*. He returned, and being **HARD UP**, as we say, took it into his head to break a shop-window at Liverpool, and take out some trumpery trinket stuff.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 104. There I met in with two Edinburgh snibs, who were **HARD UP**.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Merchant of Venice.' Who by showing at Operas, Balls, Plays, and Court, . . . Had shrunk his 'weak means,' and was 'stump'd' and **HARD UP**.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xi. He . . . was, not to put too fine a point upon it **HARD-UP**.

1865. *New York Herald*. This anxiety . . . shows conclusively that they are **HARD-UP** for political capital.

1871. *Lond. Figaro*, 25 Jan. For years, England has been a refuge for **HARD-UP** German princelings.

1887. MANVILLE FENN, *This Man's Wife*, i., 13. I don't look **HARD UP** do I? No, because you've spent my money on your wretched dress.

1891. *Fun*, 25 Mar. You're **HARD UP**, ain't you? Stumped? Well, it's Threadneedle Street to a frying-pan, that if Popsy knew your real name, he'd lend you a thousand or two like a shot.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS**.—Many under **FLOORED** apply equally to **HARD-UP**; others are :—At low water mark; cracked up; dead-broke; down on one's luck; fast; in Queer Street; in the last of pea time; in the last run of shad; low down; low in the lay; oofless; out of favor with the oof-bird; pebble-beached; seedy; short; sold-up; stony-broke; strapped; stuck; stumped; suffering from an attack of the week's (or month's) end; tight; on one's uppers; under a cloud; on one's beam ends.

**FRENCH SYNONYMS**.—*Se mettre dans le bœuf* (common = to go in for **BLOCK ORNAMENTS** (*q.v.*)); *être en brindezingue* (mountebanks = gone to smash); *être brouillé avec la monnaie* (familiar = to have had a row with one's banker); *être coupé* (printers'); *être à la côte* (familiar = on the shelf); *être fauché* (thieves' = cut down); *être dans la purée* (thieves'); *être molle* (thieves'); *être à la faridond* (popular); *être en dèche* (popular); *être désargenté* (thieves' = oofless); *être bref* (popular = short); *être à fond de cale* (popular = down to bed-rock); *être à la manque* (popular = on short commons); *manger de la misère* (popular = to sup sorrow); *être dans le lac* (popular = a hole); *être pané* (general); *panné comme la Hollande* (general = very hard up).

SPANISH SYNONYMS. — *Estar pelado* or *ser un pelado* (= skinned); *tiñoso* (= scabby).

ITALIAN SYNONYM. — *Calcare a ventun'ora*.

2. (common). — Intoxicated. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

3. (Winchester College). — Out of countenance; exhausted (in swimming).

**HARD-UPNESS** or **HARD-UPPISHNESS**, *subs.* (colloquial). — Poverty; a condition of impoverishment.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of a Cheap Jack*. There were frequent . . . collapses from death or HARD-UPNESS.

1883. *Illust. London News*, 26 May, p. 519, c. 3. These I O U's . . . do not imply, as might be supposed, common HARDUPNESS.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 28. Ike's knowledge of some of the bookmakers he had met in the old land led him to believe that HARD-UPPISHNESS would scare any knight of the pencil away.

**HARDWARE** (or **HARD**), *subs.* (American). — Counterfeit coin.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*, s.v.

**HARDWARE-BLOKE**, *subs.* (thieves'). — A native of Birmingham; a BRUM (*q.v.*).

**HARDY-ANNUAL**, *subs.* (Parliamentary). — A bill that is brought in every year, but never passed into law. Hence (journalistic), any stock subject.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 16 Aug., p. 4, c. 2. Signs of the so-called 'silly season' which has been somewhat delayed this year owing to the political crisis, are now beginning to appear. The readers of the *Daily Telegraph* are once more filling the columns of that journal with 'Is Marriage a Failure?' The HARDY ANNUAL is called 'English Wives' this time.

**HARE**, *verb.* (old). — To dodge; to double; to bewilder.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 92. Running, HARING, gaping, staring.

1672. MARVELL, *Rehearsal*, Tr. (Grosart), iii, 372. They amaze, shatter and HARE their people.

TO HARE IT, *verb. phr.* (American thieves'). — To retrace one's steps; to double back. [From the way of a hare with the hounds.]

TO MAKE A HARE OF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To make ridiculous; to expose the ignorance of any person.

1830-32. CARLETON, *Traits and Stories*, 'The Hedge-School.' What A HARE that MADE OF him . . . and did not leave him a leg to stand on!

1844. LEVER, *Tom Burke of Ours*, ii., 393. It was Mister Curran MADE A HARE OF your Honor that day.

TO SWALLOW A HARE, *verb. phr.* (old). — To get very drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* HARE, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HE HAS SWALLOWED A HARE, he is drunk, more probably a hair which requires washing down.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*, s.v.

TO HOLD WITH THE HARE AND HUNT WITH THE HOUNDS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To play a double game; to keep on good terms with two conflicting parties.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

TO KISS THE HARE'S FOOT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To be late; to be a day after the fair; to kiss the post.

**HARE-BRAINED** (or **HAIR-BRAINED**), *adj.* (old colloquial : now recognised).—Reckless ; flighty ; impudent ; skittish. Also, substantively, **HARE-BRAIN** = a hare-brained person.

1534. N. UDAL, *Roister Doister*, I., iv., p. 27 (Arber). Ah foolish **HARE-BRAINE**, This is not she.

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse*, in *Wks.*, ii., 53. A **HAREBRAIND** little Dwarf it is.

1621. BURTON, *Anat. of Mel.*, I., III., I., ii., 259 (1836). Yet again, many of them, desperate **HARE-BRAINS**.

1622. BACON, *Henry VII.* That same **HAIRE-BRAINE** wild fellow, my subject.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. xliii. When the government of a nation depends upon the caprice of the ignorant, **HAIR-BRAINED** vulgar.

1870. *Chambers' Miscellany*, No. 53, p. 28. The Slater girls are as **HARE-BRAINED** as herself.

**HARED**, *adj.* (old).—Hurried.

**HARE-SLEEP**, *subs.* (old).—Sham slumber ; **FOXES' SLEEP** (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HARE-SLEEP**, with *Eies* a'most open.

**HARKING**, *subs.* (old).—See quotes.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HARKING**, whispering on one side to borrow Money.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. **HARK-YE-ING**, whispering on one side to borrow money.

**HARLEQUIN**, *subs.* (theatrical).—I. A sovereign. For synonyms, see **CANARY**.

2. (Winchester College).—The wooden nucleus of a red india-rubber ball.

3. (old).—A patchwork quilt.

**HARLEQUIN CHINA**, *adj. phr.* (old).—Sets composed of several patterns and makes.

**HARLOTRY**, *subs.* (old).—A wanton.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Bouge of Courte*. He had no pleasure but in **HARLOTRYE**.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, iv., 1. But O the **HARLOTRY**, did she make that use of it then.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, iii., 1. O you young **HARLOTRY**.

1893. T. E. BROWN, *Old John*, p. 205. That specious **HARLOTRY** from hell's black bosom spewed.

*Adj.* (old).—Disreputable.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry IV.*, ii., 4. Oh rare ! he doth it as like one of these **HARLOTRY** players, as ever I see.

**HARMAN-BECK** (or **HARMAN**), *subs.* (old).—An officer of justice. For synonyms, see **BEAK** and **COPPER**.

1567. *HARMAN, Caveat* (1814), p. 66. The **HARMAN-BECK**, the constable.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-All*. With the **HARMAN-BEAKE** out and alas to Whittington we goe.

1656. BROOME, *Jovial Crew*, ii. Here safe in our skipper let's cly off our peck, And bowse in defiance o' th' **HARMAN-BECK**.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HARMAN-BECK**, a Beadle.

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 12. **HARMINBECK**, a Constable.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. **HARMAN BECK**, a beadle (*cant*).

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xvii. From the watchmen who skip On the **HARMAN BECK**'s errand.

1828. LYTTON, *The Disowned*. The worst have an awe of the **HARMAN**'s claw.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. **HARMAN BEAK**. The Sheriff.

**HARMANS**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—The stocks. [The suffix 'MANS' is common ; *Cf.* **LIGHTMANS**, **DARKMANS**, **ROUGHMANS**, etc.]

1567. *HARMAN, Caveat* (1814), p. 66. The **HARMANS**, the stocks.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-All*, p. 39 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). **HARMONS** the stocks.



1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.  
 1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th ed.), p. 12, s.v.  
 1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.  
 1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HARNESSES.** IN HARNESSES, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—In business ; at work : as, TO DIE IN HARNESSES = to die at one's post ; TO GET BACK INTO HARNESSES = to resume work after a holiday. [HARNESSES also = armour.]

1772. *Fun*, 10 Aug. 'Over.' Aye ! But the sting of it's here, Just as I'm back INTO HARNESSES, Others are off to sea, mountain, and mere.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 2. My father died IN HARNESSES.

**HARP, interject.** (Irish).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HARP . . . HARP is also the Irish expression for 'woman' or 'tail,' used in tossing up in Ireland, from Hibernia being represented with a harp, on the reverse of the copper coins of that country, for which reason it is in *hoisting the copper*, *i.e.*, tossing up, sometimes likewise called music.

TO HARP ON, *verb. phr.* (old, now recognised).—To dwell persistently and at any cost upon a subject.

1596. NASHE, *Have with you to Saffron Walden*. As if I had continually HARPED UPON it in every tenth line of my book.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, ii., 2. Still HARPING on my daughter.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HARP-UPON a business, to insist on it.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 297. He was back HARPING ON my proposal.

**HARPER, subs.** (old).—A brass coin current in Ireland, *temp.* Elizabeth, value one penny. [From the Irish Harp figured upon it.]

1574-1637. BEN JONSON, *The Gipsies Metamorphosed*. A two-pence I had to spend over and above ; besides the HARPER that was gathered amongst us to pay the piper.

HAVE AMONG YOU MY BLIND HARPERS, *phr.* (old).—See quot.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HARPERS.  
 1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HAVE AMONG YOU MY BLIND HARPERS, an expression used in throwing or shooting at random among a crowd.

**HARRIDAN, subs.** (old, now recognised).—See quotes. Also (colloquial) a disagreeable old woman. [A corruption of O. Fr. *haridelle* = a worn out horse, a jade.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HARRIDAN, one that is half Whore, half Bawd.

1705-7. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. II., pt. ii., p. 27. Old Leachers, HARRIDANS, and Cracks.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HARRIDAN, a haggard old woman, a miserable scraggy worn out harlot, fit to take her bawd's degree.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch., xxxix. 'Now what could drive it into the noddle of that old HARRIDAN,' said Pleydell.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**HARRINGTON, subs.** (old).—A brass farthing. [Lord Harrington obtained a patent of manufacture under James I.]

1616. B. JONSON, *Devil is an Ass*, ii., 1. Yes, sir, it's cast to penny half-penny farthing, O' the back side there you may see it, read ; I will not bate a HARRINGTON o' the sum.

1632. B. JONSON, *Magn. Lady*, ii., 6. His wit he cannot so dispose by legacy As they shall be a HARRINGTON the better for't.

**HARRY, subs.** (old).—1. A countryman ; a clown. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HARRY. A country fellow.

2. (colloquial).—See 'ARRY.

OLD HARRY, *subs.* (common).  
—The devil. For synonyms, see SKIPPER.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, ii., 1. By the LORD HARRY I'll stay no longer.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. iv. May OLD HARRY fly off with him.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends* (1865), p. 406. Shall I summon OLD HARRY himself to this spot?

HARRY OF THE WEST, *subs.*  
*phr.* (political American).—Henry Clay.

TO PLAY OLD HARRY, *verb.*  
*phr.* (common).—To annoy; to ruin; to play the devil.

1889. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 18 Jan. Otherwise PLAYED OLD HARRY with the guardians of the peace.

TOM, DICK, AND HARRY, *phr.* (common).—Generic for any and everybody; the mob.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 287. He rode from public house to public house and shouted his sorrows into the ears of TOM, DICK, AND HARRY.

WHAT HARRY GAVE DOLL, *verb. phr.* (old ventry).—The *penis*: also generic for fornication.

HARRY-BLUFF, *subs.* (rhyming).—Snuff.

HARRY-COMMON, *subs. phr.* (old).  
—A general wencher.

1675. WYCHERLEY, *Country Wife*, v., 4. Well, HARRY COMMON, I hope you can be true to three.

HARRY - \$OPH, *subs.* (Cambridge Univ.: obsolete).—See quotes.

1795. *Gent. Mag.*, p. 20. A HARRY, or ERRANT SOPH, I understand to be either a person, four-and-twenty years of age, and of an infirm state of health, who is permitted to dine with the fellows, at 5

to wear a plain, black, full-sleeved gown: or, else, he is one who, having kept all the terms, by statute required previous to his law-act, is *hoc ipso facto* entitled to wear the same garment, and, thenceforth, ranks as bachelor, by courtesy.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantabrigiam*. HARRY SOPH; or HENRY SOPHISTER; students who have kept all the terms required for a law act, and hence are ranked as Bachelors of Law by courtesy. They wear a plain, black, full-sleeved gown.

HARUM-SCARUM, *adj. and subs.* (old colloquial).—1. Giddy; careless; wild; a thoughtless or reckless fellow.

1740. *Round about our Coal Fire*, c. i. Peg would scuttle about to make a toast for John, while Tom run HARUM SCARUM to draw a jug of ale for Margery.

1780. MAD. D'ARBLAY, *Diary*, i., 358 [ed. 1842]. He seemed a mighty rattling HAREM-SCAREM gentleman.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HARUM SCARUM, he was running HARUM SCARUM, said of any one running or walking carelessly and in a hurry, after they know not what.

1836. MARRYAT, *Japhet*, ch. xcii. I'm not one of those HARUM-SCARUM sort, who would make up a fight when there's no occasion for it.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. v. They had a quarrel with Thomas Newcome's own son, a HARUM-SCARUM lad, who ran away, and then was sent to India.

1870. *London Figaro*, 19 Oct. 'Within an inch.' Tom—that's my son—has worked with me in the mine ever since he was quite a little chap; and a HARUM-SCARUM young dog he was, when a boy.

2. (sporting).—Four horses driven in a line; SUICIDE (*q.v.*).

HAS-BEEN, *subs.* (colloquial Scots').  
—Anything antiquated; specifically in commendation: as 'the good old HAS-BEENS'; cf. NEVER WAS.

1891. *Sportsman*, 1 Apr. Big Joe M'Auliffe proved conclusively that he is one of the HAS-BEENS or else one of the NEVER WASERS, as Dan Rice, the circus man, always called ambitious counterfeits.

**HASH**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. A mess; specifically in the phrase 'to make a HASH of.' For synonyms, see SIXES AND SEVENS.

1747. WALPOLE, *Lett. to Mann*, 23 Feb (1833) Vol. II., p. 274. About as like it, as my Lady Pomfret's HASH of plural persons and singular verbs or infinitive moods was to Italian.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 115 [Ry. ed.]. Listado never could compass Spanish, because, as he said, he had previously learnt French, and thus spoke a HASH of both.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'M. of Venice.' Don't suppose my affairs are at all IN A HASH, But the fact is, at present I'm quite out of cash.

1843. *Punch's Almanack*, July (*q.v.*).

1845. *Punch's Guide to Servants*, 'The Cook,' Vol. IX., p. 45. He who gives a receipt for making a stew, may himself make a sad HASH of it.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 97. Ye've made a sore HASH of my brig.

1889. *Sporting Life*, 30 Jan. Successfully negotiated the tricky entrance to the stable-yard of the hotel, at which job have been in a mortal funk many a time with poor old Jim beside me, for fear of making a HASH of it.

1890. GRANT ALLEN, *Tents of Shem*, ch. xvi. She made a HASH of the proper names, to be sure.

2. (American cadets').—Clandestine preparation for supper after hours.

3. (colloquial).—A sloven; a blockhead.

1785. BURNS, *Epistle to J. Lapraik*. A set o' dull, conceited HASHES.

*Verb* (colloquial).—1. To spoil; to jumble; to cook up and serve again.

1891. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S. xii., 22 Aug., p. 144. I do not think that Earle, a scholar of a high order and a man of the most keen wit and judgment, would have spoken thus of a thing HASHED UP by a hard-headed pedant, however able, such as Gauden.

2. (American).—To vomit. Also to FLASH THE HASH (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see ACCOUNTS and CAT.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

3. (Cheltenham School).—To study hard; to SWAT (*q.v.*).

TO SETTLE ONE'S HASH, *verb. phr.* (common).—To defeat one's object; to kill. For synonyms, see COOK ONE'S GOOSE.

1864. BROWNING, *Dramatis Personæ*. 'Youth and Art.' You've to settle yet Gibson's HASH.

c. 1871. BUTLER, *Nothing to Wear*. To use an expression More striking than classic, it SETTLED MY HASH.

1883. *Punch*, Nov. 3, p. 208, c. 1. That one stab, with a clasp-knife, which SETTLED THE young Squire's HASH in less than two seconds.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 123. We'll keep the cops off till you SETTLE HIS HASH, the rest replied, getting round us.

TO GO BACK ON ONE'S HASH, *verb. phr.* (American).—To turn; to succumb; to WEAKEN (*q.v.*).

**HASH-HOUSE**, *subs.* (American).—A cheap eating-house; a GRUB-BING crib (*q.v.*).

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 10 Jan., p. 5, c. 4. There are [in New York] lunch counters, cookshops, 'penny' restaurants, fifteen-cent restaurants, commonly called HASH-HOUSES and foreign cafés.

**HASLAR-HAG**, *subs.* (nautical).—A nurse at the Haslar Hospital. Cf., HAG.

**HASTINGS**. TO BE NONE OF THE HASTINGS SORT, *verb. phr.* (old colloquial).—To be slow, deliberate, or slothful.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. You are NONE OF THE HASTINGS, of him that loses an Opportunity or a Business for want of Dispatch



1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HE IS NONE OF THE HASTINGS SORT; a saying of a slow, loitering fellow: an allusion to the Hastings pea, which is the first in season.

**HASTY**, *adj.* (old: now recognised).—Rash; passionate; quick to move.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HASTY, very Hot on a sudden.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HASTY G.**, *subs.* (Cambridge Univ.).—See quot.

1883. *Daily News*, 24 Mar., p. 5, c. 2. Mr. Weller's own HASTY G (as Cambridge men say when they mean a 'hasty generalisation').

**HASTY PUDDING**, *subs.* (common).—I. A bastard. For synonyms, see BLOODY ESCAPE.

2. (old).—A muddy road; a quag.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. The way through Wandsworth is quite a HASTY PUDDING.

**HAT**, *subs.* (Cambridge Univ.).—I. A gentleman commoner. [Who is permitted to wear a hat instead of the regulation mortar-board.] Also GOLD HATBAND.

1628. EARLE, *Microcosmographie*. 'Young Gentleman of the Universitie' (ed., ARBER, 1868). His companion is ordinarily some stale fellow that has been notorious for an angle to GOLD HATBANDS, whom hee admires at first, afterwards scorns.

1803. *Gradus ad Cantabrigiam*. Hat Commoner; the son of a Nobleman, who wears the gown of a Fellow Commoner with a HAT.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. xxxii. I knew intimately all the HATS in the University.

1841. LYTTON, *Night and Morning*, bk. I., ch. i. He had certainly nourished the belief that some one of the HATS or tinsel gowns—i.e., young lords or fellow-

commoners, with whom he was on such excellent terms . . . would do something for him in the way of a living.

2. (venery).—The female *pudendum*. Generally OLD HAT. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, i., 6 (note). I shall conclude this learned note with remarking that the term OLD HAT is used by the vulgar in no very honourable sense.

1760. STERNE, *Tristram Shandy*, ch. cxxvi. A chapter of chambermaids, green gowns, and OLD HATS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. ['Because often felt.'] See also TOP DIVER.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

3. (Scots').—A prostitute of long standing. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

TO EAT ONE'S HAT (or HEAD), *verb. phr.* (common).—Generally, I'LL EAT MY HAT. Used in strong emphasis. See EAT.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, xlii., 367. 'If I knew as little of life as that, I'd EAT MY HAT and swallow the buckle whole,' said the clerical gentleman.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. xiv. Even admitting the possibility of scientific improvements being ever brought to that pass which will enable a man to EAT HIS OWN HEAD, Mr. Grimwig's head was such a particularly large one that the most sanguine man alive could hardly entertain a hope of being able to get through it at a sitting.

1844. J. B. BUCKSTONE, *The Maid with the Milking Pail*. If you are not as astonished as I was, I'll EAT OLD ROWLEY'S HAT.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 216. I'll EAT MY HAT.

1887. E. E. MONEY, *Little Dutch Maiden*, II., viii., 148. And if you don't run up against him next day in Bond Street, you may EAT YOUR HAT!

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 38. If some of the swells didn't ditto, I'll EAT MY OLD HAT, which it's tough.

TO GET A HAT, *verb. phr.* (cricketers').—See HAT-TRICK.

TO GET INTO THE HAT, *verb. phr.* (common).—To get into trouble.

TO HAVE A BRICK IN ONE'S HAT, *verb. phr.* (American).—To be top-heavy with drink. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

TO HANG UP ONE'S HAT.—*See* HANG.

TO PASS (or SEND) ROUND THE HAT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To make a collection.

TO TALK THROUGH ONE'S HAT, *verb. phr.* (American).—To rag; to huff; to bluster.

1888. *New York World*, 13 May. Dis is only a bluff dey're makin'—see! Dey're TALKIN' TRU DEIR HATS.

ALL ROUND MY HAT, *phr.* (streets).—A derisive retort. [From a Broadside Ballad, popular c. 1830: 'All round my hat I wears a green willow, All round my hat for a twelvemonth and a day, And if any one should ask you the reason why I wear it, Tell them my true love is gone far away'; sung to a tune adapted from a number in *Zampa*.] Also, as in quot. = all over; completely; generally.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 54. I'm a 'ot un, mate, ALL ROUND MY 'AT.

SHOOT THAT HAT! *phr.* (streets).—A derisive retort. Also I'LL HAVE YOUR HAT! Both *circa* 1860-72.

WELL, YOU CAN TAKE MY HAT! *phr.* (American).—'Well, that beats me,' *i.e.*, 'that is past belief.'

873. *A Yankee in a Planter's House*. 'What's yer name?' 'Name Grief, manssa.' 'Name *what*?' 'Name

Grief.' 'Get out! Yew're jokin'! What's yer name, anyhow?' 'Name Grief manssa.' 'WAL, YEW KIN TAKE MY HAT.'

WHAT A SHOCKING BAD HAT *phr.* (streets).—[Said to have originated with a candidate for parliamentary honours, who made the remark to his poorer constituents, and promised them new head-gear.]

1892. ANSTEY, *Model Music Hall*, 140. Lord B. Regular boulder! SHOCKING BAD HAT! *Ver.* Not so bad as his boots, and they are not so bad as his face.

HATCH, *verb.* (common).—To be brought to bed with child; to BUST UP (*q.v.*).

TO BE UNDER HATCHES, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be in a state of trouble, poverty or depression. Also dead.

1606. MARSTON, *The Faune*, iv. Remember hee got his elder brother's wife with child . . . that will stow him UNDER HATCHES, I warrant you.

1632-1704. LOCKE [quoted in *Ency. Dict.*]. He assures us how this fatherhood continued its course, till the captivity in Egypt, and then the poor fatherhood WAS UNDER HATCHES.

1639-1661. *Rump Songs*, i. [1662], 260. And all her orphans bestowed UNDER HATCHES.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. UNDER THE HATCHES, in Trouble, or Prison.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. UNDER THE HATCHES, in Trouble, or Prison.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. UNDER THE HATCHES, in trouble, distress, or debt.

1789. DIBDIN, *Tom Bowling*, For though his body's UNDER HATCHES his soul has gone aloft.

1835. BUCKSTONE, *Dream at Sea*, 3. Good-bye, dame, cheer up; you may not always be UNDER HATCHES.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*, s.v.

HATCHET, *subs.* (tailors').—I. An ill-favoured woman. For general synonyms, *see* UGLY MUG.

2. (American).—A bribe received by Customs officers in New York for permitting imported dutiable goods to remain on the wharf when they ought to go to the general store-house.

TO BURY (or DIG UP) THE HATCHET.—See BURY.

TO THROW (or SLING) THE HATCHET, *verb. phr.* (common).—1. To tell lies, to yarn; to DRAW THE LONG BOW (*q.v.*). Hence HATCHET FLINGING (or THROWING) = lying or yarning.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 94. This is a fault, which many of good understanding may fall into, who, from giving way too much to the desire of telling anecdotes, adventures, and the like, habituate themselves by degrees to a mode of the HATCHET-FLINGING extreme.

1821. P. EGAN, *Life in London*, p. 217. There is nothing creeping or THROWING THE HATCHET about this description.

1893. EMERSON, *Signor Lipito*, ch. xx. We had to call her mother, and, if anyone stopped, she'd SLING THE HATCHET to them, and tell them she was a poor lone widow left with five children.

2. (nautical).—To sulk.

HATCHET-FACED, *adj.* (old colloquial: now recognised).—See QUOTS. For synonyms, see UGLY-MUG.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HATCHET-FAC'D, Hard favor'd, Homely.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HATCHET FACE, a long thin face.

1865. SALA, *Trip to Barbary*, p. 130. The man in black balze with the felt képi, and who had a HATCHET FACE desperately scarred with the small-pox, looked from head to heel a bad egg.

1888. J. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 7. His HATCHET FACE with its pig-gish eyes, his thin cruel lips, his square jaw, are all murderous.

HATCH, MATCH, AND DISPATCH COLUMN, *subs. phr.* (journalistic).—The births, marriages, and

deaths announcements. Also CRADLE, ALTAR AND TOMB COLUMN.

HATCHWAY, *subs.* (common).—1. The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

2. (venery).—The female *rudendum*. Also FORE-HATCH. For synonyms, see MONO-SYLLABLE.

HATE-OUT, *verb.* (American).—To boycott; to send to Coventry.

18(?) S. KERCHEVAL, *History of Virginia*. The punishment for idleness, lying, dishonesty, and ill-fame generally, was that of HATING the offender out, as they expressed it. It commonly resulted in the reformation or banishment of the person against whom it was directed. If a man did not do his share of the public service, he was HATED-OUT as a coward.

HATFIELD, *subs.* (common).—A drink, whose chief ingredients are gin and ginger-beer.

1883. *Daily News*, 5 July, p. 5, c. 1. There are, we believe, all sorts of strong waters in the mild-looking and seductive HATFIELD, while the majority of 'cups' are distinctly 'mixed.'

HATFUL, *subs.* (colloquial).—A large quantity; a heap.

1859. *Punch*, lxxx., vi., 236. If they had trusted their own judgment they would have won a HATFUL.

1864. M. E. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. xxii. He was in a very good temper however, for he had won what his companions called a HATFUL of money on the steeple-chase.

HATPEG, *subs.* (common).—The head. For synonyms, see CRUM-PET.

HATTER, *subs.* (Australian).—A gold-digger working alone.

1881. A. BATHGATE, *Waitaruna*, p. 88. He is what they call a HATTER, that is he works alone.

1885. *Chambers' Journal*, 2 May, p. 286. Some prefer to travel, and even to work, when they can get it, alone, and these are known to the rest as HATTERS.



1890. *Illustrations*, p. 158. The former occupant was what is known as a **HATTER**, *i.e.*, a digger living by himself.

1890. **MARRIOTT WATSON**, *Broken Billy*. He was looked upon as a **HATTER**, that is to say, a man who has lived by himself until his brain has been turned.

**WHO'S YOUR HATTER?** *phr.* (streets).—A catch-cry long out of vogue.

**MAD AS A HATTER**, *phr.* (colloquial).—Very mad.

1863. **MARSHALL** [Title of a farce].  
**MAD AS A HATTER**.

**HAT-TRICK**, *subs.* (cricket).—Taking three wickets with three consecutive balls: which feat is held to entitle the bowler to a new hat at the cost of the club.

1888. *Sportsman*, 28 Nov. Mr. Absolom has performed the **HAT TRICK** twice, and at Tufnell Park he took four wickets with four balls.

1892. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.* 21 Sept., p. 13, c. 2. On one occasion I succeeded in doing the **HAT TRICK**.

1892. *Woolwich Polytechnic Mag.*, 20 May. Three of these wickets were taken in succession, thus accomplishing the **HAT-TRICK**.

**HAT-WORK**, *subs.* (journalists').—Hack work; such stuff as may be turned out by the yard without reference to quality.

1888. **H. RIDER HAGGARD**, *Mr. Meeson's Will*, c. 1. And five-and-twenty tame authors (who were illustrated by thirteen tame artists) sat—at salaries ranging from one to five hundred a year—in vault-like hutches in the basement, and week by week poured out that **HAT-WORK** for which Meeson's was justly famous.

**HAULABLE**, *adj.* (University).—Used of a girl whose society authorities deem undesirable for the men: *e.g.*, she's **HAULABLE** = a man caught with her will be proctorised,

**HAUL-BOWLINE**, *subs.* (nautical).—A seaman. For synonyms, *see* **STRAWYARDER**.

**HAUL-DEVIL**, *subs.* (common).—A clergyman. For synonyms, *see* **DEVIL-DODGER** and **SKY-PILOT**.

**HAUL DEVIL, PULL BAKER.**  
*See* **DEVIL**.

**HAUT-BOY** (or **HO-BOY**), *subs.* (American).—A night scavenger; a jakesman or **GOLD-FINDER** (*q.v.*).

**HAVE**, *subs.* (common).—1. A swindle; a **TAKE-IN** (*q.v.*); a **DO** (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* **SELL**.

2. *in. pl.* (common).—The moneyed classes; as opposed to the **HAVE-NOTS**, their antipodes.

1893. *National Observer*, Feb. 25, ix., 357. A body whose policy is to make the **HAVE-NOTS** as comfortable and objectionable as possible at the cost in coin and comfort of the **HAVES**.

3. (*in. pl.*) *subs.* (Winchester College).—Half-boots. Pronounced **Hāves**.

**IS THAT A CATCH OR A HAVE?** *verb. phr.* (vulgar).—A formula of acknowledgment that the speaker has been 'had.' [If the person addressed be unwise enough to answer with a definition, the instant retort is 'Then you **CATCH** (or **HAVE**, as the case may be) your nose up my arse.']

*Verb* (colloquial).—1. To cheat; to **TAKE-IN**; to **DO**. *See* **BE**.

1805. **G. HARRINGTON**, *New London Spy* (4th Ed.) p. 26. Ten to one but you are **HAD**, a cant word they make use of, instead of saying, as the truth is, we have cheated him.

1825. EGAN, *Life of an Actor*, ch. iv. 'He's not to be HAD,' said Gag, in an audible whisper.

1878. HATTON, *Cruel London*, bk. II., ch. v. 'They have HAD me, bless you,' said Brayford, 'the men who have "limbed" you.'

1889. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 8 Feb. Not to be HAD so easily, my good man.

1889. *Answers*, 23 Feb., p. 196, c. 2. But even these fellows, sharp as they are, have been caught napping lately in a humorous way. Those who have HAD them have been young fellows with friends inside the *Stock Exchange*.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 161. HAD me nicely once at cards.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 23 Jan. I never felt so wild in my life. I'm no fool, you know, and I began to think I was being HAD a bit.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 58. I was nearly HAD.

1892. *Illus. Bits*, 22 Oct., p. 14, c. 2. Oh, mebbey, Oi wasn't 't be HAD that way. Oi always kape resates—spishully Gov'ment wans. Oi got it safe and cosy in me pocket-book.

2. (venery).—To possess carnally. [Said indifferently of, and by, both sexes.] For synonyms, see GREENS.

TO HAVE HAD IT, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To have been seduced.

TO HAVE (OR TAKE) IT OUT OF ONE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To punish; to retaliate; to extort a *quid pro quo*; to give tit for tat.

TO HAVE IT OUT WITH ONE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To speak freely in reproof; to complete an explanation; to settle a dispute with either words or blows.

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*, ch. xix. Instead of going down to St. Eve's and HAVING IT OUT, he fretted, and worried, and fumed the six days away.

1888. *Daily News*, 8 Dec. There was a question as to who struck the first blow, but it seemed to him certain that a man who crossed the road to HAVE IT OUT with another was the most likely to have commenced hostilities.

TO HAVE ON, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To secure a person's interest, attention, sympathy: generally with a view to deceiving him (or her).

TO HAVE TOWARDS (OR WITH, OR AT), *verb. phr.* (old).—I. To pledge in drinking; to toast. See HERE.

1637. CARTWRIGHT, *Royal Slave*. Here's to thee, Leocrates. *Leoc.* HAVE TOWARDS THEE, Philotas. *Phil.* To thee, Archippus. *Arch.* Here, Molops. *Mol.* HAVE AT YOU, filders.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Tom Cringle's Log*, ch. ii. 'HAVE WITH YOU, boy—have with you,' shouted half-a-dozen other voices, while each stuck his oaken twig through the handkerchief that held his bundle, and shouldered it, clapping his straw or tarpaulin hat, with a slap on the crown, on one side of his head, and staggering and swaying about under the influence of the pooten.

2. (common).—To agree with

TO HAVE ON TOAST, *verb. phr.* (common).—I. To take in.

2. (common).—To worst in argument.

TO HAVE ON THE RAWs, *verb. phr.* (common).—To tease; to touch to the quick.

TO LET ONE HAVE IT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To punish severely.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 8. 'Hurraw, Dick, mind your hair,' and I ups old Greaser and let one Injun HAVE IT, as was going plum into the boy with his lance.

HAVE UP, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To bring before the authorities; to SUMMONS (*q.v.*).

HAVERCAKE-LADS, *subs. phr.* (Military).—The Thirty-third Foot. [From the circumstance that its recruiting sergeants always preceded their party with an oat-cake on their swords.]

**HAVEY-CAVEY**, *adj.* (old).—Uncertain ; doubtful ; shilly-shally.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.  
1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**HAVIL**, *subs.* (old).—A sheep. For synonyms, see WOOL-BIRD.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.  
1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**HAVOCK**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—Devastation ; waste.

1607. SHAKESPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iii., 1. Cry HAVOCK, and let slip the dogs of war.  
1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. They made sad HAVOCK, they Destroy'd all before 'em.  
1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

**HAWCUBITE**, *subs.* (old).—A roysterer ; a street bully. [After the Restoration there was a succession of these disturbers of the peace : first came the Muns, then followed the Tityre Tus, the Hectors, the Scourers, the Nickers, the Hawcubites, and after them the MOHAWKS (*q.v.*).]

**HAWK**, *subs.* (common).—I. A card-sharper ; a ROOK (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. Hawk, c., a Sharper.  
1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HAWK, a Sharper.  
1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Hawk also signifies a sharper, in opposition to pigeon.  
1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HAWK. A Confidence Man ; a swindler.  
1891. *New York Herald* [London ed.], 31 May. These were HAWKS and pigeons, and those who are no longer pigeons, and never had, or will have, an inclination to be HAWKS.

2. (common).—A bailiff ; a constable. For synonyms, see BEAK.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. I., ch. iii. 'The game's spoiled this time, Rob Rust, anyhow,' growled one, in an angry tone ; 'the HAWKS are upon us, and we must leave this brave buck to take care of himself.'

*Verb* (old).—See *quots.*

1589. NASHE, *Anatome*, Whereas, by their humming and HAWKING . . . they have leisure to gesture the mislike of his rudeness.

1600. SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*, v., 3. Shall we clap into 't roundly, without HAWKING, or spitting, or saying we are hoarse ?

1604. MARSTON, *Malcontent*, ii., 2. Is he troubled with the cough of the lungs still ? Does he HAWKE a night's ?

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. . . . Also spitting difficultly.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. . . . HAWKING, an effort to spit up the thick phlegm, called *oysters*, whence it is wit upon record, to ask the person so doing, whether he has a license, a punning allusion to the act of HAWKERS and pedlars.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xlv. This tremendous volley of superlatives which Sampson HAWKED up from the pit of his stomach.

1822. BYRON, *Vision of Judgment*, xc. To cough and HAWK, and hem, and pitch His voice into that awful note of woe.

WARE HAWK ! *phr.* (old).—A warning ; look sharp ! See *subs.* sense 2.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Ware Hawk* (Title).

1625. JONSON, *Staple of News*, v. 2. See ! the whole covey is scattered ; WARE, WARE THE HAWKS !

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Hawk, WARE HAWK, the word to look sharp, a bye-word when a bailiff passes.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. iii. WARE HAWK ! Douse the Glim.

TO HAWK ONE'S MEAT, *verb. phr.* (common).—To peddle one's charms, *i.e.*, to show a great deal of neck and breasts. Fr., *montrer sa viande*.

**HAWK-A-MOUTHED**, *adj. phr.* (old).—See *quot.*



c. 1750. *Dialogue in the Devonshire Dialect* (Palmer, 1839) s.v. One that is perpetually HAWKING and spitting; also foul-mouthed.

**HAWKER**, *subs.* (old: now recognized).—A pedlar.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAWKERS. Retail News-Sellers.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HAWKERS, licensed itinerant retailers of different commodities, called also pedlars; likewise the sellers of newspapers.

**HAWKING**, *verb. subs.* (old: now recognised).—Peddling; offering small wares for sale from door to door. Also see quot. 1690.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAWKING, going about Town and Country with Scotch-Cloth, etc., or News-Papers: also Spitting difficultly.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

**HAWK-EYE STATE**, *subs. phr.* (American).—Iowa. [After the famous Indian chief.]

**HAWSE**. TO FALL ATHWART ONE'S HAWSE, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To obstruct; to fall out with; to counter and check.

**HAWSE-HOLES**. TO COME (OR CREEP) IN THROUGH THE HAWSE-HOLES, *verb. phr.* (nautical).—To enter the service at the lowest grade; to rise from the fore-castle.

1830. MARRYAT, *King's Own*, ch. viii. His kind and considerate captain was aware that a lad who CREEPS IN AT THE HAWSE-HOLES, *i.e.*, is promoted from before the mast, was not likely to be favourably received in the midshipmen's mess.

1889. *Chambers' Journal*, 3 Aug., 495. A sailor who rose from the ranks was formerly said TO HAVE CREPT THROUGH THE HAWSE-HOLES.

**HAY**. TO MAKE HAY, *verb. phr.* (University).—To throw into confusion; to turn topsy-turvy; to knock to pieces in argument or single combat. Also, to kick up a row.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. vii. The fellows were mad with fighting too. I wish they hadn't come here and MADE HAY afterwards.

TO DANCE THE HAY, *verb. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. To Dance the Hay. TO MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES, or make good use of one's Time.

**HAY-BAG**, *subs.* (thieves').—A woman. [*I.e.*, something to lie upon.] For synonyms, see PETTICOAT. Fr., *une paillassée*.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. I, p. 231, q.v.

**HAY-BAND**, *subs.* (common).—A common cigar. For synonyms, see WEED.

1864. *Glasgow Herald*, 9 Nov., q.v.

**HAYMARKET-HECTOR**, *suös.* (old).—A prostitute's bully. See HECTOR.

c. 1675. MARVELL, *Cutting of Sir John Coventry's Nose*, vi. O ye HAYMARKET HECTORS!

**HAYMARKET-WARE**, *subs.* (common).—A common prostitute. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

**HAY-PITCHER** (or HAY-SEED), *subs.* (American).—A countryman. Cf., GAPE-SEED.

1851. HERMAN MELVILLE, *Moby Dick*, p. 36 (ed. 1892). Ah! poof HAYSEED.

1888. *New York World*. 'I wouldn't hev come into his shop if I had known it,' protested the imitation HAY-PITCHER.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, Sept. 11. (to HAYSEED)—Ever read Ouida? H.—No, but by golly I must get his books. The weeds in my garden are raisin' eternal tarnation.

1890. NORTON, *Political Americanisms*, p. 53. HAYSEEDS—rustics. The 'HAYSEED delegation' in a State legislature is supposed to consist of farmers or their representatives.

1890. Judge, 'Christmas No.' p. 31. Them two fellers . . . has been passin' d'rog'tory remarks about that HAYSEED's ears.

1893. CLARK RUSSELL, *Life of the Merchant Sailor*, in *Scribner's*, xiv, 8. Hired by the State to court the HAYSEED to the tenders.

**HAYS** *intj.* (American).—An injunction to be gone; GIT (*q.v.*).

1851. JUDSON, *Mysteries of New York*, ch. i., p. 12. Cut and run, my darling! HAYS! is the word, and off you go.

**HAZE**, *subs.* (American).—Be-wildermint; confusion; FOG (*q.v.*).

*Verb* (American).—**I.** To play tricks or practical jokes; to frolic. Hence, HAZING. Also to mystify or FOG (*q.v.*).

1848. *N. Y. Com. Adv.*, 2 Dec. W. had been drinking, and was HAZING about the street at night, acting somewhat suspiciously or strangely [when the officer arrested him].

1887. *Lippincott's Mag.*, July, p. 105. This and the Dyke are the only approaches to HAZING that I have ever heard of here.

1888. *Philadelphia Bulletin*, 27 Feb. So woman is completing her conquest of the planet. She rows. She smokes. She preaches. She HAZES. She shoots. She rides.

1892. R. L. STEVENSON and L. OSBOURNE, *The Wrecker*, p. 39. In some of the studios at that date, the HAZING of new pupils was both barbarous and obscene.

**2.** (nautical).—To harass with overwork or paltry orders. Also to find fault.

1840. R. H. DANA, *Two Years Before the Mast*, ch. viii. HAZE is a word of frequent use on board ship, and never, I believe, used elsewhere. It is very expressive to a sailor, and means to punish by

hard work. Let an officer once say 'I'll HAZE you,' and your fate is fixed. You will be 'worked up,' if you are not a better man than he is.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 205. Here I have been five days . . . HAZING—what you call slanging—upholsterers.

1883. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island*, ch. xi., p. 89 (1886). I've had a'most enough o' Cap'n Smollett; he's HAZED me long enough, by thunder!

1889. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S. viii., 31 Aug. My old partner, who served his time at sea, always spoke of giving a man 'a good HAZING' when he meant he had been finding fault with his doings, etc.

**HAZEL-GELD**, *verb.* (old).—See quotes.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAZEL-GELD, to Beat any one with a Hazle-Stick or Plant.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HAZLE-GILD, to beat anyone with a hazle stick.

**HAZY**, *adj.* (old: now recognised).—**I.** See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HAZY Weather, when it is Thick, Misty, Foggy.

**2.** (common).—Stupid with drink; MIXED (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1824. T. HOOK, *Sayings and Doings*, 1st. S. 'Friend of the Family,' p. 179. One night at a public-house I was foolish enough to brag. Hazy, Sir—you understand? smoking and drinking.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Lay of S. Cuthbert.' Stamp'd on the jasey As though he were crazy, And staggering about just as if he were HAZY.

**HE**, *subs.* (Charterhouse).—A cake. A YOUNG HE=a small cake. See SHE.

**HEAD**, *subs.* (nautical).—**I.** A man-of-war's privy.

**2.** (common).—The obverse of a coin or medal. HEADS or TAILS?—Guess whether the coin

spun will come down with head uppermost or not. [The side not bearing the Sovereign's head has various devices: Britannia, George and the Dragon, a harp, the Royal arms, an inscription, etc.—all included in the word 'tail,' *i.e.*, the reverse of 'head.' The Romans said HEADS OR SHIPS?]

d. 1680. BUTLER, *Remains* (1759), ii., 431. Let his chance prove what it will, he plays at CROSS YOU LOSE, and FILE YOU WIN.

1871. *Observer*, 16 Apr. Perhaps for the first time Parliament is asked to enjoin a settlement of public dispute by means of tossing HEADS OR TAILS, 'cross or pile.'

3. (old).—An arrangement of the hair; a coiffure.

1773. GOLDSMITH, *She Stoops to Conquer*, ii., 10. Pray how do you like this HEAD? . . . I dressed it myself from a print in the Ladies' Memorandum Book for last year.

TO HAVE AT ONE'S HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—To cuckold.

1640. GOUGH, *Strange Discovery*. Not if you stay at home, and warm my bed; But if you leave me, HAVE AT YOUR HEAD.

TO TAKE ONE IN THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—To come into one's mind.

1609. HOLLAND, *Amenianus Marcellinus*. Now, IT TOOKE HIM IN THE HEAD, and incensed was his desires (seeing Gaule now quited) to set first upon Constantius.

TO DO ON HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old). To act rashly.

1559. ELIOTE, *Dict. Abruptum in genium*, a rash brayne that dooeth all things on HEAD.

TO DO ON ONE'S HEAD, *phr.* (thieves').—To do easily and with joy.

TO FLY AT THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—To attack; to GO FOR (*q.v.*).

1614. *Terence in English*. Fellow servant, I can very hardly refraine my selfe, but that I must needes FLEE AT THE HEAD OF HIM.

TO EAT ONE'S HEAD. See HAT.

TO EAT ONE'S (or IT'S) HEAD OFF, *verb. phr.* (common).—To cost more than the worth in keep.

1703. *Country Farmer's Catechism*. My mare has EATEN HER HEAD OFF at the Ax in Aldermanbury.

1878. PARKER GILLMORE, *Great Thirst Land*, ch. vii. Our horses were EATING THEIR HEADS OFF at livery.

1893. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 1 Feb. p. 384, 2. A lot of raw material in stock which, in local parlance, would EAT ITS HEAD OFF if kept warehoused.

TO RUN ON HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—To incite.

1556. HEYWOOD, *Spider and Fly*. Thirdlie, to set cocke on hope, and RUN ON HEADE.

TO GIVE ONE'S HEAD (or ONE'S BEARD) FOR WASHING, *verb. phr.* (old).—To yield tamely and without resistance. *Fr.*, *laver la tête*=to reprimand; to admonish with point, energy, and force.

1615. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Cupid's Revenge*, iv., 3. I'm resolved . . . And so am I, and forty more good fellows, That will not GIVE THEIR HEADS FOR THE WASHING, I take it.

1663. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, I., iii., 255. For my part it shall ne'er be said, I FOR THE WASHING GAVE MY HEAD, Nor did I turn my back for fear.

TO PUT A HEAD (or NEW-HEAD) ON ONE, *verb. phr.* (common).—I. To change a man's aspect by punching his head: hence, to get the better of one's opponent; to annihilate. Also TO PUT A NEW FACE ON.

1870. R. GRANT WHITE, *Words and their Uses*. But all his jargon was surpassed, in wild absurdity, By threats, profanely emphasised, TO PUT A HEAD ON ME. . . . Instead of PUTTING ON A HEAD he strove to smite off mine.

1870. BRET HARTE, *Further Words from Truthful James*. To go for that same party for TO PUT A HEAD ON HIM.



1888. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 80. I'D PUT A NEW HEAD ON YER for tuppence.

2. (colloquial). — To froth malt liquors. [*E.g.*, 'Put a head on it, Miss,' addressed to the barmaid, is a request to work the engine briskly, and make the liquor take on a CAULIFLOWER (*q.v.*).]

HEADS I WIN, TAILS YOU LOSE, *phr.* (common).—A gage of certainty = In no case can I fail: I hold all the trumps.

1890. *Welfare*, Mar., p. 8, c. 1. A director holding shares to the extent of £50 will draw a yearly recognition of his patronage to the tune of £100. It is unnecessary to ask whether such a course of speculation follows the principle of TAILS YOU LOSE, HEADS I WIN.

TO GET THE HEAD INTO CHANCERY, *verb. phr.* (formerly pugilists': now common).—To get the other fighter's head under one arm and hold it there; a position of helplessness. *See* CHANCERY.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 18. When Georgy, one time, got the HEAD of the Bear INTO CHANCERY.

2. (colloquial).—Hence to get, or be got, into a posture of absolute helplessness.

TO KNOCK ON THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To kill; to destroy; to put an end to.

1871. *Weekly Dispatch*, 21 May, 'Police Report.' The magistrate (Mr. Newton) refused the application for bail, remarking that the sooner the house was done away with the better, and he would take care that it and all connected with it were KNOCKED ON THE HEAD.

TO GET (OR PUT) THE HEAD IN A BAG. *See* BAG.

TO GET (OR HAVE) A SWELLING IN THE (OR A BIG-) HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be or become conceited; to put on airs.

1888. *Cincinnati Enquirer*. Anna Kelly . . . is missing from her home in Newport. Somebody has been SWELLING HER HEAD.

1890. *Star*, 27 Jan. Although he received but £100 for his share, he GOT THE BIG HEAD, went to pieces, and is now on the retired list.

TO HIT THE RIGHT NAIL ON THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common). To speak or act with precision and directness; to do the right thing. [The colloquialism is common to most languages. The French say, *Vous avez frappé au but* (= You have hit the mark). The Italians, *Havete dato in brocca* (= You have hit the pitcher: alluding to a game where a pitcher stood in the place of AUNT SALLY (*q.v.*)). The Latins, *Rem acu tetigisti* (= You have touched the thing with a needle: referring to the custom of probing sores.)

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., iii., 21. The common Proverb as it is read, That a Man must HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

1892. MILLIKEN, '*Arry Ballads*', p. 43. That's what I meant when I said that that josser, whose name I've forgotten 'ad 'IT THE RIGHT NAIL ON THE 'EAD.

TO ARGUE (OR TALK) ONE'S HEAD OFF, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be extremely disputative or loquacious; to be all JAW (*q.v.*).

1892. MILLIKEN, '*Arry Ballads*', p. 22. ARGUE YOUR 'EAD OFF like.

TO BUNDLE OUT HEAD (OR NECK) AND HEELS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To eject with violence.

TO HAVE NO HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—1. (of persons). To lack ballast; to be crack-brained. *See* APARTMENTS TO LET. Hence, TO HAVE A HEAD ON = to be cut, alert; TO HAVE SAND (*q.v.*).

1888. LYNCH, *Mountain Mystery*, ch. 2. Caledonia was declared to possess a Coroner with a HEAD, and a very good one on him, and a messenger was sent to rouse him.

2. (of malt liquors).—To be flat.  
*See* CAULIFLOWER.

TO HAVE A HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To experience the after-effects of heavy drinking (*cf.*, MOUTH); also TO HAVE A HEAD-ACHE. For synonyms, *see* SCREWED.

TO GIVE ONE HIS HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To give one full and free play; to let go.

TO HAVE MAGGOTS IN THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be crotchety, whimsical, freakish; TO HAVE A BEE IN ONE'S BONNET. For synonyms, *see* APARTMENTS.

TO HURT IN THE HEAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—To cuckold; to cornute.

TO LIE HEADS AND TAILS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To sleep packed sardine fashion, *i.e.*, heads to head-rail and foot-rail alternately.

OVER HEAD AND EARS (in work, love, debt, etc.), *phr.* (common).—Completely engrossed in; infatuated with; to the fullest extent.

1589. NASHE, *Pasquill of England* (Grosart), i., 114. Presently he fetcheth his seas himselfe, and leaps very boldly OVER HEADE AND EARES.

1735. GRANVILLE (quoted in Johnson's *Dict.*, s.v. HEAD). In jingling rimes well fortified and strong, He fights intrenched o'er HEAD AND EARS IN SONG.

WITHOUT HEAD OR TAIL, *adv. phr.* (common).—Incoherent;

neither one thing nor the other. *E.g.*, I can't make head or tail of it—I cannot make it out.

1728. VANBRUGH, *Journey to London*, iv. He had the insolence to intrude into my own dressing room here, with a story WITHOUT A HEAD OR TAIL.

1736. FIELDING, *Pasquin*, v. Take this play, and bid 'em forthwith act it; there is not in it either HEAD OR TAIL.

1874. MRS. H. WOOD, *Johnny Ludlow*, 1st Series, No. 12, p. 203. Mrs. Blair has been writing us a strange rigmorale, which nobody can MAKE HEAD OR TAIL OF.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 22. There is nothing to MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF in it that I can see.

TO HAVE A HEAD LIKE A SIEVE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be unreliable; to be forgetful.

HEADS OUT! *phr.* (American university).—A warning cry on the approach of a master.

ARSE OVER HEAD. *See* ARSE and HEELS OVER HEAD.

MUTTON-HEAD (or HEADED).—*See* MUTTON-HEAD.

FAT (or SOFT) IN THE HEAD, *adv. phr.* (common).—Stupid. For synonyms, *see* APARTMENTS.

OFF ONE'S HEAD, *adv. phr.* (common).—Stupid; crazy. For synonyms, *see* APARTMENTS.

SHUT YOUR HEAD, *phr.* (American).—'Hold your jaw.'

HEAD-BEETLER, *subs.* (workmen's).—1. A bully; and (2) a foreman; a GANGER (*q.v.*).

1886. *Chambers' Journal*, 18 Sept., p. 599. HEAD-BEETLER is used (in Ulster) in the same vulgar sense as 'Head-cook and bottle-washer' in some localities. The 'beetle' was a machine for producing figured fabrics by the pressure of a roller, and HEAD-BEETLER probably means the chief director of this class of work.

**HEAD-BLOKE.** See HEAD-SCREW.

**HEAD-BULLY** ( or -CULLY ). — See quotes.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEAD BULLY OF THE PASS OR PASSAGE BANK. The Top Tilter of the Gang, throughout the whole Army, who Demands and receives Contribution from all the Pass Banks in the Army.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HEAD-COOK AND BOTTLE-WASHER**, subs. *phr.* (common). — I. A general servant ; in contempt.

2. (common). — One in authority ; a BOSS (*q.v.*). Cf., HEAD-BEETLER.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adv. of a Cheap Jack*, p. 66. Fred Jolly being the HEAD-COOK AND BOTTLE-WASHER.

**HEAD-CLERK.** HEAD-CLERK OF DOXOLOGY WORKS, subs. *phr.* (American). — A parson. See DEVIL-DODGER.

1869. CLEMENS (Mark Twain), *Innocents at Home*, ch. ii. If I've got the rights of it, and you are the HEAD CLERK OF THE DOXOLOGY WORKS next door.

**HEADER**, subs. (tailors'). — A notability ; a BIG-WIG (*q.v.*).

TO TAKE A HEADER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — I. To plunge, or fall, headforemost, into water : and (theatrical), to take an apparently dangerous leap in sensational drama. Hence, to go straight and directly for one's object.

1856. *Inside Sebastopol*, ch. xiv. We may surely shut the door and take a HEADER.

1863. *Fun*, 4 Apr., p. 23. Did the chairman commence the proceedings by TAKING A TREMENDOUS HEADER . . . a verbatim report might be interesting.

1884. W. C. RUSSELL, *Jack's Courtship*, ch. vii. 'Miss Hawke,' said I, plucking up my heart for a HEADER and going in, so to speak, with my eyes shut and my hands clenched.

**HEAD-FRUIT**, subs. (old). — Horns : i.e., the result of being cuckolded.

1694. CONGREVE, *Double Dealer*, ii., 3. That boded horns : the FRUIT OF THE HEAD is horns.

**HEAD-GUARD**, subs. (thieves'). — A hat ; specifically, a billy-cock.

1889. CLARKSON and RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 21. A billy-cock, a HEAD-GUARD.

**HEADING**, subs. (American cowboys'). — A pillow ; any rest for the head.

HEADING 'EM, subs. *phr.* (streets). — The tossing of coins in gambling. (In allusion to the head on the coin.)

**HEAD-MARKED**, *adj.* (venery). — Horned. TO KNOW BY HEAD-MARK = to know (a cuckold) by his horns.

**HEADQUARTERS**, subs. (racing). — Newmarket. (Being the chief racing and training centre.)

1888. *Sportsman*, 28 Nov. Of the two-year olds that ran . . . races for them are the strong point of that particular gathering at HEADQUARTERS.

**HEAD-RAILS**, subs. (old nautical). — The teeth. For synonyms, see GRINDERS.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1853. BRADLEY, [Cuthbert Bede] *Verdant Green*, Pt. II., ch. iv. He had agreeable remarks for each of his opponents . . . to another he would cheerfully remark, 'your HEAD-RAILS were loosened there, wasn't they?'

**HEAD-ROBBER**, subs. (journalists'). — I. A plagiarist.



2. (popular).—A butler.

**HEAD-SCREW** (or **BLOKE**), *subs.*  
(prison).—A chief warder.

**HEADY**, *adj.* (old : now recognised).  
—1. *See* quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.  
HEADY, strong Liquors that immediately  
fly up into the Noddle, and so quickly  
make Drunk.

2. (colloquial).—Restive ; full  
of arrogance and airs ; opinionated.

1864. *National Review*, p. 535. I  
think it's the novels that make my girls so  
HEADY.

**HEADY-WHOP**, *subs.* (streets).—A  
person with a preternaturally  
large head. (A corruption of  
WHOPPING-HEAD (*q.v.*)).

**HEALTHERIES**, *subs.* (common).—  
The Health Exhibition, held at  
South Kensington. [Others of the  
series were nick-named The  
Fisheries, The Colinderies, The  
Forestries, etc.]

**HEAP**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A large  
number ; lots ; a great deal.

1371. CHAUCER, *Boke of the Duchesse*,  
iii., 295 (1868, *Minor Poems*, SKEAT,  
p. 23). Of smale foules a gret HEPE.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*,  
i., 23/575 (Riverside Press). The wisdom  
of an HEEPE of lerned men.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Ox-  
ford*, ch. xxxv. I sha'n't see her again,  
and she won't hear of me for I don't know  
how long ; and she will be meeting HEAPS  
of men.

1885. *Punch*, 4 July, p. 4. 'Splendid  
sight,' he goes on, 'HEAPS of people—  
people you don't see anywhere else—and  
lots of pretty girls.'

1883. *Texas Siftings*, 20 Oct. He  
did not encroach on the domain of fa-  
miliarity, but he looked a HEAP.

1892. GUNTER, *Miss Dividends*, xi.  
Every one here would do a HEAP for  
Bishop Tranyon's darter.

*Adv.* (American).—A great  
deal.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far  
West*, p. 223. He pronounced himself a  
HEAP better.

ALL OF A HEAP, *phr.* (old :  
now colloquial).—Astonished ;  
confused ; taken aback ; FLABBER-  
GAST (*q.v.*) ; and (pugilists')  
'doubled up.'

1593. SHAKSPEARE, *Titus Androni-  
cus*, ii., 4. Lord Bassianus lies embrewed  
here, ALL ON A HEAP.

1775. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk.  
VIII., ch. ii. My good landlady was (ac-  
cording to vulgar phrase) struck ALL OF A  
HEAP by this relation.

1775. SHERIDAN, *Duenna*, ii., 2.  
That was just my case, too, Madam ; I  
was struck ALL OF A HEAP for my part.

1817. SCOTT, *Rob Roy*, ch. xxiv.  
The interrogatory seemed to strike the  
honest magistrate, to use the vulgar  
phrase, ALL OF A HEAP.

1832. EGAN, *Book of Sports*, s.v. ALL  
OF A HEAP and all of a lump, unmistakably  
doubled up by a smasher.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*. 'And  
what's the lady's name ?' says the lawyer.  
My father was struck ALL OF A HEAP.  
'Blessed if I know,' said he.

1888. J. MCCARTHY and MRS.  
CAMPBELL-PRAED, *The Ladies' Gallery*,  
ch. xiv. The idea seemed to take him  
ALL OF A HEAP.

1891. *Scots' Mag.*, Oct., p. 321.  
Spinks and Durward were struck, as we  
may say, ALL OF A HEAP, when they fully  
realised that Folio had disappeared.

**HEAPED**, *adj.* (racing).—1. Hard  
put to it ; FLOORED (*q.v.*).

1884. HAWLEY SMART, *From Post  
to Finish*, p. 158. They've all heard of  
Blackton's accident, and fancy we're fairly  
HEAPED for someone to ride.

2. (venery).—Piled in the act.

1607. CYRIL TOURNEUR, *Revenge's  
Tragedy*, ii., 1. O, 'twill be glorious to  
kill 'em . . . when they're HEAPED.

**HEAR.** TO HEAR A BIRD SING (old).—To receive private communication; in modern parlance, A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME SO.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *2 Henry IV.*, v., 5. I will lay odds, that ere this year expire, We bear our civil sword and native fire As far as France. I HEAR A BIRD SO SING.

**HEARING**, *subs.* (common).—A scolding; a lecture. For synonyms, see WIGGING.

**HEARING-CHEATS**, *subs.* (old cant).—The ears.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, s.v.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEARING CHEATS, EARS.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Drums; flappers; leathers; lugs (Scots'); taps; wattles.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Les plats à barbe* (popular = large ears); *les oches* or *loches* (thieves'); *les isgourdes* (popular); *des feuilles de chou* (popular = cabbage leaves); *des écoutes* or *éscoutes* (popular = hearing cheats); *des cliquettes* (popular).

GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Horcher* (= the listener); *Linzer*, *Loser*, (Viennese: also *Losling*, *Leusling*, *Leisling*, or *Lauschling*): *Osen*.

**HEART.** NEXT THE HEART, *adv. phr.* (old).—Fasting.

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse* [Grosart], ii., 37. You may command his hart out of his belly, to make you a rasher on the coales, if you will NEXT YOUR HEART.

1633. ROWLEY, *Match at Midnight*, i. Made drunk NEXT HER HEART.

[Other colloquial usages are AT HEART = in reality, truly, at bottom; FOR ONE'S HEART = for one's life; IN ONE'S HEART OF HEARTS = in the inmost recesses of oneself; TO BREAK THE HEART OF = (a) to cause great grief, or to kill by grief, and (b) to bring nearly to completion; TO FIND IN ONE'S HEART = to be willing; TO GET OR LEARN BY HEART = to commit to memory; TO HAVE AT HEART = to feel strongly about; TO HAVE IN THE HEART = to design or to intend; TO LAY OR TAKE TO HEART = to be concerned or anxious about; TO SET THE HEART AT REST = to tranquilize; TO SET THE HEART ON = to be desirous of, to be fond of; TO TAKE HEART OF GRACE = to pluck up courage.]

**HEART-AND-DART**, *subs.* (rhyming). A FART (*q.v.*).

**HEARTBREAKER**, *subs.* (old).—A pendant curl; a LOVE-LOCK (*q.v.*). Fr., *un crève-cœur*.

1663. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, Pt. I., c. 1. Like Samson's HEARTBREAKERS, it grew In time to make a nation rue.

1694. *Ladies' Dict.* A *crève-cœur*, by some called HEARTBREAKER, is the curled lock at the nape of the neck, and generally there are two of them.

1816. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. A cant name for a woman's curls, supposed to break the hearts of all her lovers.

**HEARTBURN**, *subs.* (streets).—A bad cigar. For synonyms, see WEED.

**HEARTSEASE**, *subs.* (old).—1. *See* *q.v.*

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEARTSEASE. A twenty-shilling piece.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—Gin. For synonyms, see WHITE SATIN.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEARTS-EASE. An ordinary sort of strong water.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HEARTY**, *subs.* and *adj.* (common).—Drink; drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

MY HEARTY, *phr.* (nautical).—  
A familiar address.

HEARTY - CHOKE. TO HAVE A  
HEARTY CHOKE AND CAPER SAUCE  
FOR BREAKFAST, *verb. phr.* (old).  
—To be hanged. *Cf.*, VEGETABLE  
BREAKFAST, and for  
synonyms, see LADDER.

1786. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, 'Nix  
my Doly,' Who cut his last fling with  
great applause TO A HEARTY CHOKE WITH  
CAPER SAUCE.

1893. DANVERS, *The Grantham  
Mystery*, ch. xiii, I am not particularly  
anxious to run the risk of being compelled  
to have a HEARTY-CHOKE FOR BREAKFAST  
one fine morning.

HEAT, *subs.* (racing and colloquial).  
—A bout; a turn; a trial; by  
whose means the 'field' is gradually  
reduced. *Cf.*, HANDICAP.

1681. DRYDEN, *Epil. to Saunders's  
Tamerlane*, 25. But there's no hope of  
an old battered jade; Faint and unnerved  
he runs into a sweat, And always fails you  
at the second HEAT.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*,  
ch. lxxxviii. Our adventurer had the  
satisfaction of seeing his antagonist dis-  
tanced in the first and second HEATS.

1753. *Adventurer*, No. 37. The first  
HEAT I put my master in possession of the  
stakes.

1819. SCOTT, *Bride of Lammermoor*,  
ch. xxii. There was little to prevent  
Bucklaw himself from sitting for the  
county—he must carry the HEAT—must  
walk the course.

ON HEAT, *subs. phr.* (venery).  
—Amorously inclined, HOT (*q.v.*).  
[Said of women and bitches.]

HEATHEN - PHILOSOPHER, *subs.*  
(old).—See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.  
A sorry poor tatter'd Fellow, whose Breech  
may be seen through his Pocket-holes.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*,  
s.v. This saying arose from the old

philosophers, many of whom despised the  
vanity of dress to such a point, as often to  
fall into the excess complained of.

HEAVE, *subs.* (old).—1. An attempt  
to deceive or cajole: a DEAD-  
HEAVE=a flagrant attempt.

2. *in. pl.* (American).—An  
attack of indigestion or vomiting.

*Verb* (American).—1. To  
vomit.

1862. BROWNE ('Artemus Ward'),  
*Artemus Ward, his book*. 'Cruise of the  
Polly Ann.' Stickin my hed out of the  
cabin window, I HEV.

2. (old).—To rob: has  
survived, in Shropshire, as a pro-  
vincialism. The heler (hider) is  
as bad as the HEAVEER = the  
receiver is as bad as the thief.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, p. 66. To  
HEVE a bough, to robbe or rifle a boweth.

1575. AWDELEY, *Fraternite of  
Vacabondes*. But hys chiefest trade is to  
rob bowthes in a faire, or to pilfer ware  
from staules, which they cal HEAVING  
of the bowth.

1608. DEKKER, *Belman of London*  
in *Wks.* (Grosart) III., 102. But the end  
of their land-voiajes is to rob Boothes at  
fayres, which they call HEAVING of the  
Booth.

1671. R. HEAD, *English Rogue*, Pt.  
I., ch. xlv. p. 319 (1874). I met with an  
old comrade that had lately HEAV'D a  
booth, Anglice broken open a Shop.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.  
HEAVE a bough. To rob a house.

1724. COLES, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary*, (5th  
Ed.). HEAVE (v.) . . . and in the  
*Canting Language*, it is to rob or steal from  
any person or thing.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

TO HEAVE ON (or AHEAD),  
*verb. phr.* (old).—To make haste;  
to press forward.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch.  
iv. Come HEAVE AHEAD, my lads, and  
be smart.



**HEAVEN**, *subs.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. To FEEL ONE'S WAY TO HEAVEN = TO GROPE (*q.v.*) a woman. See also, ST. PETER.

**HEAVENLY-COLLAR**, (or **LAPPEL**), *subs.* (tailors'). — A collar or lapel that turns the wrong way.

**HEAVER**, *subs.* (old). — I. The bosom; the PANTER (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEAVER. A breast.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (American). — A person in love: *i.e.*, sighing (= heaving the bosom, or making play with the HEAVER) like a furnace.

3. (old). — A thief: *cf.*, HEAVE (*verbal* sense 2).

**HEAVY**. See HEAVY-WET.

*Adj.* (American). — Large: *e.g.*, a HEAVY amount = a considerable sum of money.

TO COME (or DO) THE HEAVY, *verb. phr.* (common). — To affect a vastly superior position; to put on airs or FRILLS (*q.v.*). See COME and DO.

THE HEAVIES, *subs. phr.* (military). — The regiments of Household Cavalry, 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, and 1st and 2nd Dragoons. [From their equipment and weight.]

1841. LEVER, *Chas. O'Malley*, ch. lviii. I'm thinking we'd better call out THE HEAVIES by turns.

**HEAVY-ARSED** (old colloquial), *adj. phr.* — Slow to move; inert; hard to stir. See ARSE.

*d.* 1691. RICHARD BAXTER. *Shove to HEAVY-ARSED Christians*. [Title.]

**HEAVY-CAVALRY** (or **DRAGOONS**), *subs.* (common). — Bugs; LIGHT-INFANTRY = fleas. Also HEAVY HORSEMEN, the HEAVY TROOP, and THE HEAVIES.

**HEAVY-GROG**, *subs.* (workmen's). — Hard work.

**HEAVY-GRUBBER**, *subs.* (common). — I. A hearty eater; a glutton. For synonyms, see STODGER.

1858. DICKENS, *Great Expectations*, ch. xl, p. 190. 'I'm a HEAVY GRUBBER, dear boy,' he said, as a polite kind of apology when he had made an end of his meal, 'but I always was. If it had been in my constitution to be a lighter grubber, I might ha' got into lighter trouble.'

**HEAVY-PLODDER**, *subs.* (old). — A stock-broker.

1848. DUNCOMBE, *Sinks of London*, s.v.

**HEAVY-(or HOWLING-)SWELL**, *subs.* (common). — A man or woman in the height of fashion: a SPIFF (*q.v.*).

1892. ANSTEX, *Model Music Hall*, 74. We look such HEAVY SWELLS, you see, we're all aristo-crats.

**HEAVY-WET**, *subs.* (common). — I. Malt liquor; specifically porter and stout. Also HEAVY. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SWIPES.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, p. 75. The soldiers and their companions were seen tossing off the HEAVY WET and spirits.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. vii. I had been lushing HEAVY WET.

1838. GRANT, *Sketches in London*, p. 92. If it be HEAVYWET, the favorite beverage . . . of Dr. Wade.

1849. C. KINGSLEY, *Alton Locke*, ch. ii. Here comes the HEAVY. Hand it here to take the taste of that fellow's talk out of my mouth.

1852. JUDSON, *Mysteries of New York*, bk. II., ch. x. What'll it be, my covies? HEAVY WET, cold or warm?

1888. J. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 86. Mother up with your HEAVY WET and try suthin' short.

2. (common).—An extraordinarily heavy drinking bout.

**HEBE**, *subs.* (old).—I. See *quots.*

1648-9. CRASHAW, *Poems*. 'On the Death of Mr. H.' Ere HEBE's hand had overlaid His smooth cheeks with a downy shade.

1778. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. The first Hair appearing about the genital parts; also the Parts themselves; but more specifically the Time of Youth at which it first appears.

2. (common).—A waiting maid at an inn; a barmaid.

1603. J. SYLVESTER, *Tr. Du BARTAS, Mag.*, p. 65 (1608). Heer, many a HEBE faire, heer more than one Quickseruing Chiron neatly waits vpon The Beds and Boords.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xlix. Shortly after the same HEBE brought up a plate of beef-collops.

1886. *Athenæum*, 9 Jan., 63/2. It is not with the Colonel's HEBES, however, that the manœuvres of the military quintet are carried on.

1891. *Sportsman*, 25 Mar. Not even the kindly morning welcome of La Rærdon, most pleasant and courteous of deft-handed HEBES, could blot out the fact.

**HEBREW**, *subs.* (common).—Gibberish; GREEK (*q.v.*). TO TALK HEBREW=to talk nonsense or gibberish.

1705. VANBRUGH, *Confederacy*, ii., i. *Mon.* If she did but know what part I take in her sufferings—. *Flip.* Mighty obscure. *Mon.* Well, I'll say no more; but—. *Flip.* All HEBREW.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. You may as well TALK HEBREW, said of jargon.

**HECTOR**, *subs.* (old).—A bully; a blusterer.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, ii, 6 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 322). HECTORS, or champion haxters, pimps or palliards. *Ibid.* iii., i., (p. 326). Levell-

ing at honour, they declare themselves glorious HECTORS,

b. 1670. J. HACKET, *Archbp. Williams*, ii., 203. One HECTOR, a phrase at that time for a daring ruffian, had the ear of great ones sooner than five strict men.

1674. COTTON, *Complete Gamester*, p. 333. Shoals of Huffs, HECTORS, Setters, Gilts, Pads. . . . And these may all pass under the general or common appellation of Rooks.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, iv., 1. She would rather trust her honour with some dissolute debauched HECTOR.

1679. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, iii., 2, 108. As bones of HECTORS when they differ The more th'are Cudgel'd, grow the Stiffer.

1689. LESTRANGE, *Tr. Erasmus*, p. 139. And a Ruffling HECTOR that lives upon the Highway.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HECTOR, a Vaporizing, Swaggering Coward.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 24. I hate, she cry'd, a HECTOR, a Dione without a Sting.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*

1750. OZELL, *Rabelais*, iv., Pref. xxiii. These roaring HECTORS.

1757. POPE, *Imit. Hor.*, ii., 1, 71. I only wear it in a land of HECTORS, thieves. . . . and Directors.

1778. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1828. *Congress Deb.*, ii., 1., p. 1024. He hoped it would invite . . . a reply from the Southern HECTOR . . . of this debate.

*Verb* (common).—To play the bully; to bluster. Also TO PLAY THE HECTOR.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, ii., 1. No HECTORING, good Captain.

1849-61. MACAULAY, *Hist. of Eng.*, ch. xvi. To PLAY THE HECTOR at cock-pits or hazard tables.

TO WEAR HECTOR'S CLOAK, *verb. phr.* (old).—To receive the right reward for treachery. [When Thomas Percy, Earl of Northumberland, was routed in 1569, he hid himself in the house of Hector Armstrong, of Harlaw, who betrayed him for hire, and prospered

so ill thereafter that he died a beggar by the roadside.]

**HECTORING**, *subs.* and *adj.* (old: now recognised). — Bullying; blustering.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, ii., 1. Thou art soe debauched, drunken, lewd, HECTORING, gaming companion. *Ibid*, ii., 1. Every idle, young, HECTORING, roaring companion, with a pair of turned red breeches, and a broad back, thinks to carry away any widow of the best degree.

1893. *St. James's Gazette*, xxvii, 4074, p. 3. Mr. Sexton with much unnecessary outlay of HECTORING bluster, repudiates guilty knowledge.

**HEDGE**, *subs.* (racing).—*See verbal* sense.

1856. HUGHES, *Tom Brown*, p. 200. Now listen, you young fool, you don't know anything about it; the horse is no use to you. He won't win, but I want him as a HEDGE.

1864. *Eton Schooldays*, ch. vii. He took the precaution to take those odds five or six times by way of a HEDGE, in case anything should happen to Chorley.

*Verb* (racing).—1. To secure oneself against, or minimise the loss on a bet by reversing on advantageous terms; TO GET OUT (*q.v.*). [Thus, if a man backs A to win him £100 at 5 to 1, he will if possible HEDGE by laying (say) 3 to 1 to the amount of (say) £60 against him. He will then stand thus: If A wins he gains on the first bet £100, and loses on the second £60, leaving a net gain of £40; if A loses he loses on the first bet £20, and wins on the second £20, thus clearing himself.] *See* STANDING ON VELVET and GO.

1616. JONSON, *Devil is an Ass*, iii., 1. I must have you do A noble gentleman a courtesy here, In a mere toy, some pretty ring or jewel, Of fifty or threescore pound. Make it a hundred, And HEDGE in the last forty that I owe you, And your own price for the ring.

1671. BUCKINGHAM, *The Rehearsal*, Prol. Now, critics, do your worst, that here are met, For, like a rook, I have HEDG'd in my bet.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEDGE, to secure a desperate Bet, Wager, or Debt.

1736. FIELDING, *Pasquin*, Act iii. *Sneer*. That's laying against yourself, Mr. Trapwit. *Trap*. I love a HEDGE, sir.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th ed.). HEDGE (*v.*) . . . also to secure or re-insure a dangerous debt, voyage, wager, etc.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. lxix. They changed their note, and attempted to HEDGE for their own indemnification, by proposing to lay the odds in favour of Gauntlet.

1754. *Connoisseur*, No. 15. Whatever turn things take, he can never lose. This he has effected, by what he has taught the world to call, HEDGING a bet.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1854. WHYTE MELVILLE, *General Bounce*, ch. xii. If she says 'Yes,' sell out . . . If she says 'No' get second leave . . . So it's HEDGED both ways.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 201. You'd better HEDGE some of your sweep money.

2. (common).—To elude a danger.

TO DIE BY THE HEDGE, *verb. phr.* (common). — To die in poverty.

TO HANG IN THE HEDGE, *verb. phr.* (old).—*See quot.*

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. IT HANGS IN THE HEDGE, of a Law-suit or anything else Depending, Undetermined.

AS COMMON AS THE HEDGE (or HIGHWAY), *phr.* (old).—Very common.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. AS COMMON AS THE HEDGE OR HIGHWAY, said of a prostitute or Strumpet.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* s.v.

BY HEDGE OR BY CROOK. *See* HOOK.



**HEDGE-BIRD**, *subs.* (old). — See quot.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii., 1. Out, you rogue, you HEDGE-BIRD, you pimp, you panier-man's bastard, you.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. HEDGE-BIRD, a Scoundrel or sorry Fellow

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*

**HEDGE-BOTTOM ATTORNEY** (or **SOLICITOR**), *subs. phr.* (legal).—

A person who, being not admitted or being uncertificated (or, it may be, admitted and certificated both, but struck off the rolls for malpractice), sets up in the name of a qualified man, and thus evades the penalties attaching to those who act as solicitors without being duly qualified. [All the business is done in another name, but the hedge-bottom is the real principal, the partner being only a dummy.]—SIR PATRICK COLQUHOUN in *Slang, Jargon and Cant*.

**HEDGE-CREEPER**, *subs.* (old).—A hedge-thief; a skulker under hedges; a pitiful rascal.

1594. NASHE, *Unfortunate Traveller* p. 32 (Chiswick Press, 1892). Call him a sneaking eavesdropper, a scraping HEDGE-CREEPER, and a piperley pickthank.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEDGE-CREEPER; a pitiful rascal.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HEDGE - DOCKED**, *adj.* (venery).—Deflowered in the open.

**HEDGE-MARRIAGE** (or **WEDDING**), *subs.* (old).—An irregular marriage performed by a HEDGE-PRIEST (*q.v.*); a marriage over the broom.

**HEDGE-NOTE**, *subs.* (old).—Low writing. [As Dryden: 'They left these HEDGE-NOTES for another sort of poem.']

**HEDGE-POPPING**, *subs.* (sporting).—Shooting small birds about hedges. Whence HEDGE-POPPER = a trumpery shooter; and HEDGE-GAME = small birds, as sparrows and tits.

**HEDGE-PRIEST** (or **PARSON**), *subs.*

(old : now recognised).—A sham cleric; a blackguard or vagabond parson; a COUPLE BEGGAR. [As Johnson notes, the use of HEDGE in a detrimental sense is common. As HEDGE-begot; HEDGE-born; HEDGE-brat; HEDGE-found; HEDGE-DOCKED (*q.v.*); HEDGE-tavern (= a low ale-house); HEDGE-SQUARE (*q.v.*); HEDGE-reared; HEDGE-mustard; HEDGE-writer (= a Grub-street author); HEDGE-BUILDING, etc. Shakespeare uses the phrase 'HEDGE-born' as the very opposite of 'gentle blooded' (1 *Henry VI.*, iv., 1).] Specifically, HEDGE-PRIESTS = (in Ireland) a cleric admitted to orders directly from a HEDGE-SCHOOL (*q.v.*) without having studied theology. [Before Maynooth, men were admitted to ordination ere they left for the continental colleges, so that they might receive the stipend for saying mass.]

1588. *Marprelate's Epistle*, p. 30 (Ed. Arber). Is it any maruaile that we haue so many swine dumbe dogs nonresidents with their iourneimen the HEDGE-PRIESTS . . . in our ministry.

1594. SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour Lost*, v., 2. The pedant, the braggart, the HEDGE-PRIEST, the fool, and the boy.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*. *Arlotto*, the name of a merie priest, a lack-latine, or HEDGE-PRIEST.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEDGE-PRIEST. A sorry Hackney, Underling, Illiterate, Vagabond, see Patrico.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xvii. A HEDGE-PARSON, or buckle-beggar, as that order of priesthood has been irreverently termed.

**HEDGER**, *See* HEDGE, sense 2.

1823-45. HOOD, *Poems* (Ed. 1846), p. 96. A black-leg saint, a spiritual HEDGER.

**HEDGE-SCHOOL**, *subs.* (Irish).—A school in the country parts of Ireland formerly conducted in the open air, pending the erection of a permanent building to which the name was transferred. Hence, HEDGE-SCHOOLMASTER.

**HEDGE-SQUARE**. TO DOSS (or SNOOZE) IN HEDGE-SQUARE (or STREET), *verb. phr.* (vagrants').—To sleep in the open air.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. — To skipper it; to doss with the daisies; to be under the blue blanket; to put up at the Gutter Hotel; to do a star pitch.

FRENCH SYNONYMS.—*Coucher à l'hôtel de la belle étoile* (pop.=to sleep at the Star Hotel); *manger une soupe aux herbes* (popular); *fuer la comète* (popular=to nose the comet); *coucher dans le lit aux pois verts*.

1877. GREENWOOD, *Under the Blue Blanket*. The vagrant brotherhood have several slang terms for sleeping out in a field or meadow. It is called 'snoozing in HEDGE SQUARE,' etc.

**HEDGE-TAVERN** (or -ALE-HOUSE), *subs.* (old).—*See* quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEDGE TAVERN or ALEHOUSE, A Jilting, Sharping Tavern, or Blind Alehouse.

1705. FARQUHAR, *Twin-rivals*, i., 1. That was . . . in the days of dirty linen, pit-masks, HEDGE-TAVERNS, and beef-steaks.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HEDGE-WHORE** (or HEDGE-BIT), *subs.* (old: now recognised).—A filthy harlot working in the open air.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, s.v., *Zambracca*, a common - HEDGE-WHORE, strumpet, a base harlot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HEDGING**, *subs.* (racing).—*See* HEDGE, *verbal* sense 2.

1867. A. TROLLOPE, *Claverings*, ch. xxiv. He would be lessening the odds against himself by a judicious HEDGING of his bets.

**HEEL**. TO BLESS THE WORLD WITH ONE'S HEELS, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be hanged. For synonyms, *see* LADDER.

1566-7. PAINTER, *Palace of Pleasure*, sign R., 8. And the next daye, the three theves were conveyed forth to BLESSE THE WORLDE WITH THEIR HEELES.

TO COOL (or KICK) THE HEELS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To wait a long while at an appointed place.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*. Who forthwith comitted my little hot furie to the stockes, where we will leave him to COOLE HIS HEELES, whilst we take a further view of the faire.

1673. WYCHERLEY, *Gentleman Dancing Master*, iv., 1. They ne'er think of the poor watchful chambermaid, who sits KNOCKING HER HEELS IN THE COLD, for want of better exercise, in some melancholy lobby or entry.

1752. FIELDING, *Amelia*. In this parlour Amelia COOLED HER HEELS, as the phrase is, near a quarter of an hour.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford* [Ed. 1854], p. 22. He expected all who KICKED THEIR HEELS at his house would behave decent and polite to young Mr. Dot.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. xiii. Tell him that I'll trouble him to forget to go to sleep again as he did last time, and leave me here KICKING MY HEELS contrary to the rules of the service.

1879. SALA, *Paris Herself Again*, i. We COOLED OUR HEELS during the ordinary an intolerable half hour.

1888. LYNCH, *Mountain Mystery*, ch. xlv. That young gentleman, who had been COOLING HIS HEELS for what seemed like half the night.

TO LAY BY THE HEELS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To confine; to fetter; to jail.

1601. SHAKESPEARE, *Henry VIII.*, v., 4. If the king blame me for it, I'll LAY ye all BY THE HEELS, and suddenly.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, iii. Sir, if you be not quiet the quicklier, Ill have you CLAPP'D fairly BY THE HEELS, for disturbing the Fair.

1663-1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, i., 3. Th' one half of man, his mind, is, *sui juris*, unconfined, And cannot be LAID BY THE HEELS.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 184. If they LAY ME BY THE HEELS, Alan, it's then that you'll be needing the money.

TO LIFT ONE'S HEELS, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To lie down for copulation; to SPREAD (*q.v.*).

TO TURN (OR TOPPLE) UP THE HEELS (OR TOES), *verb. phr.* (old).—To die. For synonyms, see ALOFT.

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse* [Grosart], ii., 77. Our trust is . . . you will TOURNE UP THEIR HEELS one of these yeares together, and prouide them of such vnthrifits to their heires, as shall spend in one weeke . . . what they got . . . all their lifetime.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stufte*. Leaven thousand and fifty people TOPPLED UP THEIR HEELS.

TO TAKE TO (OR SHOW) A PAIR OF HEELS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To take to flight; to run away. For synonyms, see AMPUTATE.

1593. SHAKESPEARE, *Comedy of Errors*. Nay . . . Sir, I'll TAKE MY HEELS.

1864. *Chambers' Journal*, Dec. Once before he had 'found meanes yet at length to deceive his keepers, and TOOK HIM TO HIS HEELS' to the sea coast.

HIS HEELS, *verb. phr.* (gaming).—The knave of trumps at cribbage or all-fours. Hence 'TWO FOR HIS HEELS' = two points scored (at cribbage) for turning up this card.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

TO TREAD UPON (OR TO BE AT OR UPON) THE HEELS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To follow close or hard after; to pursue.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iv., 7. One woe doth TREAD UPON ANOTHER'S HEELS.

TO GO HEELS OVER HEAD, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To turn a somersault; to be hasty; to fall violently. Also TOP OVER TAIL.

1540. LYNDSEY, *Satyre of the Thrie Estaitis*, 3744. This fals world is turnit TOP OUR TAILL.

TO HAVE (OR GET) THE HEELS OF, *verb. phr.* (old).—To outrun; to get an advantage.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Roderick Random*. Thou hast GOT THE HEELS OF me already.

DOWN (OR OUT) AT HEEL, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Slipshod; shabby; in decay.

1605. SHAKESPEARE, *King Lear*, ii., 2. A good man's future may grow OUT AT HEELS.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1851-6. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., 122. He was a little DOWN AT HEEL.

HEELED, *adj.* (American).—Armed. [From the steel spur used in cock-fighting.]

HEELER, *subs.* (American).—I. Followers or henchmen of a politician or a party.

1888. *Denver Republican*, 29 Feb. The HEELERS and strikers, bummers and stuffers, otherwise known as practical



politicians, who do the work at the Democratic polls, and manipulate the primaries and local conventions.

1888. *New York Herald*, 4 Nov. A band succeeded them and preceded a lot of ward **HEELERS** and floaters.

2. (American).—A bar, or other loafer; anyone on the lookout for shady work.

3. (American thieves').—An accomplice in the pocket-book **RACKET** (*g.v.*). [The **HEELER** draws attention, by touching the victim's heels, to a pocket-book containing counterfeit money which has been let drop by a companion, with a view to inducing the victim to part with genuine coin for a division of the find.]

4. (Winchester College).—A plunge, feet foremost, into water. Fr., *une chandelle*.

**HEEL-TAPS**, *subs.* (common).—I. Liquor in the bottom of a glass. **BUMPERS ROUND AND NO HEEL TAPS**=Fill full, and drain dry! See **DAYLIGHT**. Fr., *la musique*.

1795. *Gent. Mag.*, p. 118. Briskly pushed towards me the decanter containing a tolerable bumper, and exclaimed, 'Sir, I'll buzz you: come, NO **HEEL-TAPS**!'

1836. **DICKENS**, *Pickwick* (Ed. 1857), p. 10. NO **HEEL-TAPS**, and he emptied the glass.

1838. **DICKENS**, *Nicholas Nickleby*, ch. xxxii. There was a proper objection to drinking her in **HEELTAPS**.

1841. *Punch*, i., 117. Empty them **HEELTAPS**, Jack, and fill out with a fresh jug.

1844. **BUCKSTONE**, *The Maid with the Milking Pail*. Added to which, she's a termagant, and imbibes all the **HEELTAPS**.

1855. **THACKERAY**, *Newcomes*, ch. xiv. The relics of yesterday's feast—the emptied bottles . . . the wretched **HEELTAPS** that have been lying exposed all night to the air.

2. (common).—A dance peculiar to London dustmen.

**HEIFER**, *subs.* (common).—A woman; **OLD HEIFER** (in Western America)=a term of endearment. For synonyms, see **PETTICOAT**.

18(?) *In the Back Woods*, p. 71. Now, git out, I says, or the ol' **HEIFER** 'll show you whar the carpenter left a hole for you to mosey.

**HEIFER-PADDOCK**, *subs.* (Australian).—A ladies' school.

1885. **MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED**, *Australian Life*. The cattle (women) hereabouts are too scattered . . . Next year I shall look over a **HEIFER-PADDOCK** in Sydney, and take my pick.

**HEIGH-HO**, *subs.* (thieves').—Stolen yarn. [From the expression used to apprise the fence that the speaker had stolen yarn to sell.]

**HEIGHTS**. TO SCALE THE HEIGHTS OF CONNUBIAL BLISS, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see **GREENS** and **RIDE**.

**HELBAT**, *subs.* (back).—A table.

**HELL**, *subs.* (old).—I. Generic for a place of confinement, as in some games (Sydney), or a cell in a prison: specifically, a place under the Exchequer Chamber, where the king's debtors were confined.

1593. **SHAKESPEARE**, *Comedy of Errors*, iv., 2. A hound that runs counter, and yet draws dry-foot well, One that before the judgement, carries poor souls to **HELL**.

1658. *Counter-Rat*. In Wood Street's hole, or counter's **HELL**.

1598. **FLORIO**, *World of Wordes*, s.v. *Secreta* . . . Also the name of a place in Venice where all their secret records and ancient evidences be kept, as **HELL** is in Westminster Hall.

2. (old).—A workman's receptacle for stolen or refuse pieces, as cloth, type, etc.; ONE'S EYF. Also HELL-HOLE and HELL-BOX. See CABBAGE. HELL-MATTER = (printers') old and battered type.

(?). *Newest Academy of Compliments*. When tailors forget to throw cabbage in HELL, And shorten their bills, that all may be well.

1589. NASHE, *Martin's Months Minde* (Grosart), i. 185. Remember the shreds that fall into the Tailors HELL, neuer come backe to couer your backe.

1592. *Defence of Conny Catching*, in GREENE'S *Wks.*, xi., 96. This HEL is a place that the tailors haue vnder their shopboard, wher al their stolne shreds is thrust.

1606. DAY, *Ile of Gulls*. That fellows pocket is like a tailors HELL, it eats up part of every mans due; 'tis an executioner, and makes away more innocent petitions in one yeere, than a red-headed hangman cuts ropes in an age.

1625. JONSON, *Staple of News*, i., 1. That jest Has gain'd thy pardon, thou hadst lived Condemn'd To thine own HELL.

1663. T. KILLEGREW, *Parson's Wedding*, iii., 5., in Dodsley, *O.P.* (1780) xi., 452. *Careless* [addressing a tailor]. Why then, thou art damned. Go, go home, and throw thyself into thine own HELL; it is the next way to the other.

1663-1712. KING, *Art of Cookery*. In Covent Garden did a taylor dwell, Who might deserve a place in his own HELL.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HELL, the Place where the Taylers lay up their Cabbage, or Remnants, which are sometimes very large.

1698. *Money Masters All Things*, p. 56. The Cheating Knave some of the clues does throw into his HELL-HOLE; and then lets her know That he her web cannot work out o' th' Loom.

1704. SWIFT, *Tale of a Tub*, Sec. iii. The tailor's HELL is the type of a critic's common-place book.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1814. C. LAMB, *Melancholy of Tailors* in *Poems*, etc. (Ed. Ainger), p. 333. The tailor sitting over a cave or hollow place, in the cabalistic language of his order, is said to have certain melancholy regions always open under his feet.

1853. *Notes and Queries*, 1 S., viii., 315, c. 2. The term cabbage, by which tailors designate the cribbed pieces of cloth, is said to be derived from an old word 'cablesch,' i.e., wind-fallen wood. And their HELL where they store the cabbage, from *helan*, to hide.

3. (common).—A gambling house. [Whence SILVER-HELL = a gambling house where only silver is played for; DANCING-HELL = an unchartered hall; and so forth.]

1823. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 4. Jerry. A HELL, Tom? I'm at fault again! Log. A gambling house, Jerry!

1841. *Comic Almanack*, p. 280. A man at a HELL, Playing the part of a Bonnetier well.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. xxxix. He plays still; he is in a HELL every night almost.

1890. *Saturday Review*, 1 Feb., p. 134, c. 2. These private HELLS nevertheless exist, and as all money found on the premises is seized by the police, the players have to resort to all kinds of subterfuge when the three loud knocks are heard which indicate the presence of the *commissaire*.

4. (venery).—The female *pudendum*; cf., HEAVEN. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. [See BOCCACCIO, *Decameron*.]

HEAVEN, HELL AND PURGATORY, *subs. phr.* (old).—Three ale-houses formerly situated near Westminster Hall.

1610. JONSON, *Alchemist*, v., 2. He must not break his fast In Heaven or HELL.

HELL BROKE LOOSE, *subs. phr.* (common).—Extreme disorder; anarchy.

1632. HAUSTED, *Rivall Friends*, v., 10. Fye, fye, HELL IS BROKE LOOSE upon me.

1672. MARVELL, *Rehearsal* (Grosart), iii, 212. War broke out, and then to be sure HELL'S BROKE LOOSE.

1703. FARQUHAR, *Inconstant*, iv., 4. HELL BROKE LOOSE upon me, and all the furies fluttered about my ears.

1719. DUFVEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 96. Tho' HELL'S BROKE LOOSE, and the Devils roar abroad.

HELL OF A (LARK, GOER, ROW, and so forth), *adj. phr.* (common).—Very much of a — ; a popular intensive.

ALL TO HELL (OR GONE TO HELL), *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Utterly ruined.

TO HOPE (OR WISH) TO HELL, *verb. phr.* (common).—To desire intensely.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 229. I HOPE TO H— the horse will break his neck and his rider's too.

TO PLAY (OR KICK UP) HELL AND TOMMY, *verb. phr.* (common).—To ruin utterly. Also, TO PLAY HELL AND BREAK THINGS ; TO RAISE HELL ; TO MAKE HELL'S DELIGHT.

1837-40. HALIBURTON, *The Clock-maker*, p. 287 (Ed. 1862). And in the mean time rob'em, plunder'em, and tax'em ; hang their priests, seize their galls, and PLAY HELL AND TOMMY with them, and all because they speak French.

1859. DE QUINCEY, *Wks.* (14 vol., ed. vi., 335). About a hundred years earlier Lord Bacon PLAYED H— AND TOMMY when casually raised to the supreme seat in the Council by the brief absence in Edinburgh of the King and the Duke of Buckingham.

1867. *Lahore Chronicle*, 20 May. The Sepoys are burning down the houses, and PLAYING H— AND TOMMY with the station.

1879. JUSTIN M'CARTHY, *Donna Quixote*, ch. xxxii. We'll have a fine bit of fun, I tell you. I've PLAYED HELL-AND-TOMMY already with the lot of them.

TO LEAD APES IN HELL, *verb. phr.* (old).—To die an old maid. [From a popular superstition.]

1599. HENRY PORTER, *The Two Angry Women of Abingdon*. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 294-5). For women that are wise will not LEAD APES IN HELL. . . . Therefore, come husband : maidenhead adieu.

1600. SHAKSPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, ii., 1. He that is more than youth is not for me, and he that is less than man I am not for him ; therefore I will . . . even LEAD his APES INTO HELL.

1605. *London Prodigal*, ii. But 'tis an old proverb, and you know it well, that women, dying maids, LEAD APES IN HELL.

1611. CHAPMAN, *May-day*, v. 2. I am beholden to her ; she was loth to have me LEAD APES IN HELL.

1659. *The London Chanticleers*, i., 2. I'll always live a virgin ! What ! and LEAD APES IN HELL ?

1719. DUFVEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 179. Celladon at that began To talk of APES IN HELL.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Bloudie Jacke.' They say she is now LEADING APES . . . And mends Bachelors' small clothes below.

TO PUT THE DEVIL INTO HELL, *verb. phr.* (old).—To copulate.—BOCCACCIO. [HELL = female *pudendum*.] For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

TO GIVE HELL, *verb. phr.* (common).—To trounce ; abuse ; or punish severely. Also (American), TO MAKE ONE SMELL HELL (OR A DAMN PARTICULAR SMELL).

HELL-FOR-LEATHER, *adv. phr.* (common).—With the utmost energy and desperation.

1892. R. KIPLING, *Barrack Room Ballads*. When we rode HELL-FOR-LEATHER, Both squadrons together, Not caring much whether we lived or we died.

LIKE HELL, *adv. phr.* (common).—Desperately ; with all one's might.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xxix. I tried every place, everything ; went to Ems, to Wiesbaden, to Hombourg, and played LIKE HELL.

GO TO HELL ! *phr.* (common).—An emphatic dismissal : the full phrase is, ' Go to hell and help the devil to make your mother into a bitch pie.' [A variant is,



'Go to hell and pump thunder.'  
For analogous phrases, *see* OATHS.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 72. So, good men, GO TO HELL all of you—do—very mosh go to hell—do.

1899. *Daily News*, 21 Dec., p. 7, c. i. He was asked to see somebody about his evidence, and told him TO GO TO HELL.

1892. KIPLING, *Barrack Room Ballads*. 'Ford o' Kabul River.' Kabul town'll GO TO HELL.

HELL AND SCISSORS ! *intj.* (American).—An ejaculation of surprise and ridicule. In England, SCISSORS !

HELL-BENDER, *subs.* (American).—A drunken frolic; a tremendous row. Also HELL-A-POPPING and HELL'S DELIGHT.

HELL-BROTH, *subs.* (common).—Bad liquor. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS.

HELL-CAT (-HAG, -HOUND, -KITE, etc.), *subs.* (old: now recognised).—A man or woman of hellish disposition; a lewdster of either sex; *cf.*, HALLION.

1606. SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, v., 7. *Macd.* Turn, HELL-HOUND, turn ! *Macb.* Of all men else I have avoided thee.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

HELL-DRIVER, *subs.* (old).—A coachman.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

HELLITE, *subs.* (gaming).—A professional gambler.—DUCANGE.

1838. GRANT, *Sketches in London*. Prosecuting the HELLITES for assault.

HELLOPHONE, *subs.* (American).—The telephone. [From HALLOO ! + PHONE.]

HELP, *subs.* (colloquial: once literary).—A hired assistant.

LADY-HELP = a woman acting as a companion, and undertaking the lighter domestic duties with or without wages.

1824. PEAKE, *Americans Abroad*, i., 1. Have you seen my HELP—my nigger.

1839. DE QUINCEY, *Murder as one of the Fine Arts*, ii. For domestic HELPS are pretty generally in a state of transition.

1848. BURTON, *Waggeries*, p. 77. A bevy of ready HELPS rushed upon him and tore him from the seat of honour.

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, ch. vi. 'Well, you've had a pretty good day of it,' said Tom, who had been hugely amused; 'but I should feel nervous about the HELP, if I were you.'

SO HELP (or S'ELP or S'WELP) ME GOD (BOB, NEVER, or SAY-SO, etc.), *phr.* (common).—An emphatic asseveration.

1888. J. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 86. I'll pay it back, S'ELP ME GORD.

1892. A. CHEVALIER, 'Mrs. 'Enery 'Awkins.' S'ELP ME BOB I'm crazy, Liza, you're a daisy.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 62. 'S'ELP ME NEVER, old pal, it's a scorcher.

1893. EMERSON, *Signor Lippe*, ch. xiv. Well, SO HELP MY BLESSED TATER, if this isn't our old Jose turned up again.

HELPA, *subs.* (back).—An apple.

HELPLESS, *adj.* (colloquial).—Drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

HEMISPHERES, *subs.* (venery).—The paps. For synonyms, *see* DAIRY.

HEMP (or HEMP-SEED, STRETCH-HEMP, HEMP-STRING, or HEMPY), *subs.* (old).—1. A rogue; a candidate fit for the gallows. Frequently used jocularly. A CRACK-HALTER (*q.v.*). Fr., *une graine de bagne*.

1532. SIR T. MORE, *Wks.* [1557], folio 715. [He] feareth [not] to mocke the Sacrament, the blessed body of God, and ful like a STRETCH HEMPE, call it but cake, bred, or starch.

1566. GASCOIGNE, *Supposes*, iv., 3. If I come near you, HEMPSTRING, I will teach you to sing sol fa.

1598. SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, ii., 1. Do, do, thou rogue, thou HEMP-SEED.

1606. CHAPMAN, *Mons. D'Olive*, Act v., p. 135. (*Plays*, 1874). *Van.* A perfect young HEMPSTRING. *Vu.* Peace, least he overhear you.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, iv., 6. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., p. 350). Now, you HEMPSTRINGS, had you no other time to nim us but when we were upon our visits?

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HEMP, YOUNG-HEMP, An appellation for a graceless boy.

1817. SCOTT, *Rob Roy*, ch. xxxiv. She's under lawfu' authority now; and full time, for she was a daft HEMPIE.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard*, [Ed. 1840], p. 139. 'We'll see that, young HEMPSEED, replied Sharples.

2. (old).—A halter.

1754. FIELDING, *Jonathan Wild*, iv., 14. Laudanum, therefore, being unable to stop the health of our hero, which the fruit of HEMPSEED, and not the spirit of poppy-seed, was to overcome. . . .

*Verb* (American).—To choke or strangle.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

TO WAG HEMP IN THE WIND, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be hanged. See HEMPEN FEVER and LADDER.

1532. SIR T. MORE, *Wks.* [1557], folio 715. Tindall calleth blessing and crossynge but wagging of folkes fingers in the æyre, and feareth not (like one yt would at length WAGGE HEMPE IN THE WINDE) to mocke at all such miracles.

**HEMPEN-BRIDLE**, *subs.* (old).—A ship's rope or rigging. See HORSE and TREE.

**HEMPEN COLLAR** (CANDLE, CIRCLE, CRAVAT, CROAK, GARTER, NECKTIE, or HABEAS),

*subs.* (old).—The hangman's noose; a halter. Also HEMP, and the HEARTY-CHOKE. Cf., ANODYNE NECK - LACE. See quot. 1595.

1530-95. TURBERVILLE, *Of Two Desperate Men*. A man in deepe despaire, with HEMPE in hand, Went out in haste to ende his wretched dayes.

c. 1586. MARLOWE, *Jew of Malta*, iv., 4. When the hangman had put on his HEMPEN.

1594. SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry VI.*, iv., 7. Ye shall have a HEMPEN CANDLE then, and the pap of a hatchet.

c. 1785. WOLCOT [P. Pindar], *Rights of Kings*, Ode xviii. Your HEMP CRAVATS, your pray'r, your Tyburn miser.

1819. SCOTT, *Bride of Lammermoor*, ch. xvi. I wad wager twa and a plack that HEMP plaits his CRAVAT yet.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HEMPEN HABEAS. He will get over it by a HEMPEN HABEAS.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, ch. iv. If ever I know as how you makes a flat of my Paul, blow me tight, but I'll weave you a HEMPEN COLLAR: I'll hang you, you dog, I will.

1886. MISS BRADDON, *Mohawks*, ch. xxviii. A full confession were perhaps too much to expect. Nothing but the immediate prospect of a HEMPEN NECKLACE would extort that.

**HEMPEN FEVER**. TO DIE OF A HEMPEN FEVER, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be hanged. For synonyms, see LADDER.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HEMPEN FEVER, a man who was hanged, is said to have DIED OF A HEMPEN FEVER; and in Dorsetshire to have been stabbed with a Bridport dagger; Bridport being a place famous for manufacturing hemp into cords.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1839], p. 76. She had been married four times; three of her husbands died of HEMPEN FEVERS.

**HEMPEN-FORTUNE**, *subs.* (old).—Bad luck; a term for the gallows.

1705. VANERUGH, *The Confederacy*, v., r. If ever I see one glance of your HEMPEN FORTUNE again, I'm off your partnership for ever.

**HEMPEN - SQUINCY**, *subs.* (old).—Hanging. For synonyms, see LADDER.

1646. RANDOLPH'S *Jealous Lovers*. Hear you, tutour, Shall not we be suspected for the murder, And choke with a HEMPEN SQUINCY.

**HEMPEN-WIDOW**, *subs.* (old).—A woman widowed by the gallows.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HEMPEN-WIDOW, One whose Husband was Hanged.

1725. *New Cant Dict.*, s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HEMPEN-WIDOW (s.), a woman whose husband was hanged.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1834. HARRISON AINSWORTH, *Rook-wood*, p. 89. In a box of the stone-jug I was born, Of a HEMPEN-WIDOW the kid forlorn Fake away.

**HEN**, *subs.* (common).—I. A woman. Specifically, a wife or mistress. For synonyms, see PETTICOAT.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HEN. In Black-boy Alley I've a ken, A tyke and fighting cock : A saucy tip-slang moon-eyed HEN, Who is oft mill-doll at block.

2. (common).—Drink money. See HEN DRINKING.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 20. Whenever there's HENS on the crow, 'Arry's good for a hinnings,—no fear!

*Verb* (Scots'). — To funk ; to turn tail ; TO HEN ON = to fear to attempt.

COCK AND HEN CLUB, *subs. phr.* (common).—A club composed of men and women.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

HENS AND CHICKENS, *subs. phr.* (thieves').—Pewter measures; quarts and pints. Cf., CAT AND KITTENS.

1851. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, Vol. i., p. 276. The HENS AND CHICKENS of the roguish low lodging-houses are the publicans' pewter measures; the bigger vessels are 'hens,' the smaller are 'chickens.'

**HEN-DRINKING**, *subs.* (provincial).—See quot.

1859. *Notes and Queries*, 2 S. viii., 239. There is yet another [Yorkshire marriage-custom], viz., the HEN-DRINKING. On the evening of the wedding day the young men of the village call upon the bridegroom for a hen—meaning money for refreshments . . . should the hen be refused, the inmates may expect some ugly trick to the house ere the festivities terminate.

**HEN FRIGATE**, *subs.* (nautical).—A ship commanded by the captain's wife. Cf., HEN-PECKED.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1883. CLARK RUSSELL, *Sailors Language*, s.v.

**HEN-FRUIT**, *subs.* (American).—Eggs.

**HEN (or CHICKEN)-HEARTED**, *adj.* (old : now recognised).—Timorous ; cowardly.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Why Come Ye not to Courte*. They kept them in their holdes Lyke HEN-HEARTED cuckoldes.

1506-56. UDAL, *James I*. He is reconed a lowte and a HENNE-HEARTED rascall.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, i., [1662] 319. Let the HEN-HEARTED Cit drink whey.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HEN-HEARTED, of a cowardly, fearful, or timorous disposition.

1754. B. MARTIN, *Eng. Dict.* (2nd Ed.), s.v. 'Poltron.' A coward, or HEN-HEARTED fellow.

1762. FOOTE, *Liar*, iii., 2. Why, what a dastardly, HEN-HEARTED—But come, Papillion, this shall be your last campaign.



1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1812. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. HEN-HEARTED . . . a low word.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xxviii. Are you turned HEN-HEARTED, Jack?

**HEN-HOUSE**, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HEN-HOUSE, a house where the woman rules, called also a she-house.

**HEN OF THE GAME**. See GAME.

**HEN - PARTY** (CONVENTION - or TEA-), *subs.* (common).—An assemblage of women for political or social purposes. Cf., BULL or STAG-PARTY. Also, BITCH-, TABBY-, and CAT-PARTY.

**HEN-PECKED**, *adj.* (old : now recognised).—Petticoat government ; ruled by a woman.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HENPECKT Frigate, whose Commander and Officers are absolutely sway'd by their Wives. *Ibid.* HENPECKT Husband, whose Wife wears the Breeches.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, iv., 13. I believe he that marries you will go to sea in a HEN-PECKED FRIGATE.

1712. ARBUTHNOT, *History of John Bull*, Pt. I., ch. v. He had a termagant wife, and, as the neighbours said, was playing HENPECKED !

1712. *Spectator*, No. 479. Socrates, who is by all accounts the undoubted head of the sect of the HEN-PECKED.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HEN-PECKED, a man that is overawed by his wife, and dares do nothing disagreeable to her inclinations.

1771. SMOLLETT, *Humphry Clinker*, l. 27. I shall never presume to despise or censure any poor man for suffering himself to be HENPECKED, conscious how I myself am obliged to truckle to a domestic demon.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. xxxvii. He had fallen from all the height and pomp of headship, to the lowest depth of the most snubbed HEN-PECKERY.

1857. A. TROLLOPE, *Barchester Towers*, ch. iii. But Mrs. Proudie is not satisfied with such home dominion, and stretches her power over all his movements, and will not even abstain from things spiritual. In fact, the bishop is HEN-PECKED.

**HEN'S-ARSEHOLE**.—See MOUTH.

**HEN-SNATCHER**, *subs.* (American).—A chicken thief.

1883. *Bulletin*, 24 Nov. All the dead-beats and suspected HEN-SNATCHERS plead when before the Bench that they were only 'mouching round,' etc.

**HENS'-RIGHTS**, *subs.* (American).—Women's rights.

**HEN-TOED**, *adj. phr.* (common).—To turn the toes in walking like a fowl.

**HERE**. HERE'S TO YOU (AT YOU, UNTO YOU, NOW, or LUCK), *phr.* (common).—An invitation to drink ; here's a health to you. For synonyms, see DRINKS.

1651. CARTWRIGHT, *Royal Slave*. HERE'S TO THEE, Leocrates.

1717. NED WARD, *Wks.* ii., 71. Then we were fain To use Hertfordshire kindness, HERE'S TO YOU again.

1853. *Diogenes* ii., 46. Each a pot in his hand . . . Observed in a style of remarkable ease, 'Old Buck HERE'S LUCK,' And then at the pewter proceeded to suck.

**HERE'S LUCK**, *phr.* (tailors').—I don't believe you.

**I AM NOT HERE**, *phr.* (tailors').—'I don't feel inclined to work'; 'I wish to be left alone.'

**HERE'S TO IT**, *phr.* (common).—An obscene toast. See IT, sense 2.

**HERE-AND-THEREIAN**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A rolling stone ; a person with no permanent address. *Lex. Bal.*, 1811.

**HEREFORD**, *adj.* (American cowboy). White. [Herefords are white-faced.]

**HEREFORDSHIRE-WEED**, *subs.* (old).—An oak.

**HER MAJESTY'S CARRIAGE**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A prison van; the Queen's 'bus. See BLACK MARIA. Fr., *l'omnibus à pègres*.

**HER MAJESTY'S TOBACCO PIPE**, *subs.* (common).—The furnace where the forfeited tobacco from the Customs House is burnt. [Now a thing of the past: the tobacco being distributed to work-houses, etc.]

1871. *Echo*, 27 Jan. All that was not sold will be burnt, according to custom, in HER MAJESTY'S TOBACCO PIPE. We cannot think such waste justifiable.

**HERMIT** (or **BALDHEADED HERMIT**), *subs.* (venery).—The penis. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**HEROD**. TO OUT-HEROD HEROD, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To out-do; specifically (theatrical) to excel in rant.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iii., 2. Oh, it offends me to the soul to hear a robustious, perriwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundlings . . . it OUT-HERODS HEROD.

**HERRING**. NEITHER FISH, FLESH, FOWL, NOR GOOD RED HERRING, *phr.* (old).—Neither one thing nor the other.

1682. DRYDEN, *Duke of Guise, Epil.* (6th line from end). Neuters in their middeaway of fleeing, Are NEITHER FISH, NOR FLESH, NOR GOOD RED HERRING.

TO THROW A SPRAT TO CATCH A HERRING (or WHALE), *verb. phr.* (old).—To forego an advantage in the hope of greater profit.

1826. BUCKSTONE, *Luke the Labourer*, i., 2. I give dat like THROWING AWAY A SPRAT TO CATCH A HERRING, though I hope on this occasion to catch a bigger fish.

1890. GRANT ALLEN, *Tents of Shem*, ch. xix. He's CASTING A SPRAT TO CATCH A WHALE.

DEAD AS A HERRING (or SHOT-TEN HERRING), *adv. phr.* (old).—Quite dead. [Herrings die sooner on leaving the water than most fish.] See DEAD.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, ii., 3. By gar de HERRING IS NO DEAD as I vill kill him.

1785. BURNS, *Death and Dr. Horn-book*. I'll nail the self-conceited sot AS DEAD'S A HERRIN'.

1790. RHODES, *Bombastes Furioso*, Sc. 4. Ay, DEAD AS HERRINGS—herrings that are red.

LIKE HERRINGS IN A BARREL, *adv. phr.* (common).—Very crowded.

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 117. People jammed inside like HERRINGS IN A BARREL.

THE DEVIL A BARREL THE BETTER HERRING, *phr.* (old).—All bad alike—*Lex. Bal.* In modern American, all alike; indistinguishable. Cf., SARDINE.

**HERRING-GUTTED**, *adj.* (old).—Lanky; thin.—GROSE.

**HERRING-POND**, *subs.* (common).—The sea; specifically, the North Atlantic Ocean. See BRINY and PUDDLE. TO BE SENT ACROSS THE HERRING-POND = to be transported.

1722. *England's Path to Wealth*. 'Tis odds but a finer country, cheaper and better food and raiment, wholesomer air, easier rents and taxes, will tempt many of your countrymen to cross the HERRING-POND.

1729. GAY, *Polly*, i., 1. Bless us all! how little are our customs known on this side the HERRING POND!

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, etc., s.v. HERRING-POND—the sea, the Atlantic; and he who is gone across it is said to be lagged, or gone a Botanizing.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, p. 256, ed. 1854. You're too old a hand for the HERRING-POND.

1884. M. E. BRADDON, *Henry Dunbar*, ch. xxv. You're not going to run away? You're not going to renounce the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, and make an early expedition across the HERRING-POND—eh?

1884. PHILLIPPS - WOOLLEY, *Trottings of a Tenderfoot*. Everyone nowadays has read as much as he or she cares to about the voyage across the HERRING-POND.

1889. *Notes and Queries*, 7 S., vii., p. 36, c. 2. Terms which have lived in America, and again crossed the HERRING-POND with modern traffic.

1890. *Punch*, 6 Feb. *Saturday*.—My connection with war ended. Calculate I start to-morrow with the Show across the HERRING-POND, to wake up the Crowned Heads of Europe!

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody*, ch. xvii. If so, I'll—I'll cut him, when I cross the—HERRIN' POND.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 119. I guess we have ruined one or two well-known authors, on the other side of the HERRING POND.

**HERTFORDSHIRE-KINDNESS**, *subs.* (old).—An acknowledgment, or return, in kind, of favours received. (But see quotes, 1662, 1690, and 1738).

1662. FULLER, *Worthies*. This is generally taken in a good and grateful sense, for the mutual return of favours received: it being (belike) observed that the people in this county at entertainments drink back to them who drank to them.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HERTFORDSHIRE-KINDNESS, Drinking to the same Man again.

1717. NED WARD, *Wks.*, ii., 7. Then we were fain to use HERTFORDSHIRE-KINDNESS, Here's to you again.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Conversations. Neverout*. My Lord, this moment I did

myself the honour to drink to your Lordship. *Lord Smart*. Why then that's HERTFORDSHIRE KINDNESS. *Neverout*. Faith, my Lord, I pledged myself; for I drank twice together without thinking.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HERTFORDSHIRE KINDNESS, drinking twice to the same person.

**HEWGAG**. THE HEWGAG, *subs.* (American).—A name for an undeterminate, unknown, mythical creature.—*Slang, jargon, and Cant*.

**HEY-GAMMER-COOK**. TO PLAY AT HEY-GAMMER-COOK, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

1720. C. JOHNSON, *Highwaymen and Pyrates*, 'Margaret Simpson' (q.v.).

**HICCIUS DOCCIUS**, *subs. phr.* (Old Cant).—A juggler; also a shifty fellow or trickster.

1676. SHADWELL, *Virtuoso*, ii., p. 19. I shall stand here till one of them has whipt away my Mistris about business, with a HIXIUS DOXIUS, with the force of Repartee, and this, and that, and Every-thing in the world.

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, iii., 3, 579. At Westminster, and Hiccses-Hall, And Hiccius Dockius play'd in all.

1688. WYCHERLEY, *Country Wife*, iii. That burlesque is a Hocus-pocus trick they have got, which by the virtue of HICTIUS DOCTIUS, topsey-turvey, etc.

1812. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. HICCIUS DOCCIUS . . . a cant word for a juggler; one that plays fast and loose.

*Adj.* (old).—Drunk; slovenly. Also, HICKEY (q.v.). For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1733. NORTH, *Examen*, i., 3, 137 (1740). The author with his Hiccius-docius delivery.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HICKSIUS DOXIUS, Drunk.



**HIC JACET**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A tombstone; also a memorial inscription. [From the opening words.]

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *All's Well*, etc., iii., 6. The merit of service is seldom attributed to the true . . . performer. I would have that drum . . . or HIC JACET.

1858-59. TENNYSON, *Idylls of the King* ('Vivien'). Among the cold HIC JACETS of the dead.

**HICK**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—1. A man; specifically a countryman; a booby. Also (American thieves') HICKJOP and HICKSAM. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HICK, any Person of whom any Prey can be made, or Booty taken from; also a silly Country Fellow.

1720. SMITH, *Lives of Highwaymen and Pyrates*, ii., 39. Among whom was a country farmer . . . which was not missed at all by the Country HICK.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* Song 3. 'The Thief-catcher's Prophecy.' The Eighth is a Bulk, that can bulk any HICK.

1754. *Scoundrel's Dict.* The fourteenth, a gamester, if he sees the HICK sweet He presently drops down a cog in the street.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HICKETY-SPLIT**, *adj.* (American).—With all one's might; at top speed; HAMMER AND TONGS (*q.v.*); FULL CHISEL (*q.v.*).

**HICKEY**, *adj.* (old).—See quot.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HICKEY, Topsy; not quite drunk; elated.

**HICKORY-SHIRT**, *subs.* (American).—A checked shirt, cotton or woollen.

**HIDE**, *subs.* (common).—The human skin. Once literary; now colloquial and vulgar.

1568. Bannatyne, *MSS.*, 'When Flora, etc.' (Hunterian Club, 1879-88). Sche is so brycht of HYD and hew, I lufe bot hir allane I wene.

1607. MARSTON, *What You Will*, ii., 1. A skubbing railer, whose course harden'd fortune, Grating his HIDE, gauling his starued ribs, Sittes hauling at Deserts more battle fate.

1731. C. COFFEY, *The Devil to Pay*, Sc. 5. Come, and spin, you drab, or I'll tan your HIDE for you.

1892. KIPLING, *Barrack-Room Ballads*. 'Gunga-Din.' An' for all 'is dirty 'IDE 'e was white, clear white, inside.

**Verb** (common).—To flog. For synonyms, see TAN.

1868. *Cassell's Mag.*, May, p. 80. This was carried across the yard to Jacky as a regular challenge, and some said that Kavanagh and his friends were coming over to HIDE Jacky after dinner.

1885. *Punch*, 29 Aug. p. 98. And the silver-topped rattan with which the boys I used to HIDE.

**HIDEBOUND**, *adj.* (old: now recognised).—Barren; intractable; niggardly; pedantic; utterly immovable.

1606. *Return from Parnassus*, ii., 4 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 125). Any of the HIDEBOUND brethren of Oxford or Cambridge.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, i., 2. I am as barren and HIDEBOUND as one of your scribbling poets, who are sots in company for all their wit.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIDEBOUND HORSE, whose Skin sticks very close, and tite like a Pudding Bag, usually when very Fat. *Ibid.* HIDEBOUND MUSE, Stiff, hard of Delivery, Sir J. Suckling call'd Ben Johnson's so.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1893. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 24 Feb. 'High Time to Get Up.' The most dragging inertness and the most HIDE-BOUND celerity.

**HIDING**, *subs.* (common).—A thrashing. For synonyms, see TANNING.

1853. BRADLEY, *Verdant Green*, ii., p. 23. May the Gown give the Town a jolly good HIDING.

1864. MARK LEMON, *Jest Book*, p. 236. Some people have a notion that villany ought to be exposed, though we must confess we think it a thing that deserves a HIDING.

1871. *All the Year Round*, 18 Feb. p. 288. Served me right if I'd got a HIDING.

1883. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 16 Apr., p. 7, c. 2. They should stone all boys they met who were not members of the society, or in default themselves receive a good HIDING.

1888. *Sportsman*, 22 Dec. The chairman told Deakin he could scarcely expect anything but a HIDING for being connected with such a scurrilous publication.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Mirror*, 30 Jan., p. 7, c. 1. Before Paddock could claim the victory, which cost the Redditch fighter one of the severest HIDINGS he ever had to put up with.

**HIGGLEDY - PIGGLEDY**, *adj.* (Old Cant: now recognised).—In confusion; topsy-turvy; at sixes and sevens.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, s.v. *Alla rapa*, snatchingly, HIGLEDI-PIGLEDIE, shiftingly, rap and run.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIGGLEDE-PIGGLEDY, all together, as Hoggs and Piggs lie Nose in Arse.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1758. A. MURPHY, *The Upholsterer*, ii. Ambassadors and Hair-Cutters, all HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY together.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1812. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY, a cant word, corrupted from *higgle*, which denotes any confused mass, as higglers carry a huddle of provisions together.

1849. DICKENS, *David Copperfield*, ch. xxii., p. 199. His name's got all the letters in it, HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY.

1873. MISS BROUGHTON, *Nancy*, ch. ii. We are all HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY—at sixes and sevens!

1876. M. E. BRADDON, *Joshua Haggard*, ch. xvi. 'If some of you will sit down,' remonstrated Judith, 'I'll pour out the tea. But I don't feel as if anybody wanted it while you're standing about HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY.'

**HIGGLER**, *subs.* (old).—A hawker.

**HIGH**, *adj.* (American).—Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

2. (colloquial). — Stinking; GAMEY (*q.v.*); whence, by implication, diseased (as a prostitute); obscene in intention and effect.

THE HIGH AND DRY, *subs. phr.* (clerical).—The High Church or Anglo-Catholic party in the Establishment, as opposed to the LOW AND SLOW (*q.v.*), or Evangelical section. Cf., BROAD AND SHALLOW.

1854. CONYBEARE, *Church Parties*, 74. Its adherents [of the High Church] are fallen from their high estate, and are contemptuously denominated THE HIGH AND DRY, just as the parallel development of the Low Church is nicknamed 'low and slow.'

1857. ANTHONY TROLLOPE, *Barchester Towers*, ch. liii. Who belongs to THE HIGH AND DRY church, the High Church as it was some fifty years since, before tracts were written and young clergymen took upon themselves the highly meritorious duty of cleaning churches?

1886. *Graphic*, 10 Apr., 399. In the Church have we not the three schools of HIGH AND DRY, Low and Slow, and Broad and Shallow?

**HIGH AND DRY**, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Stranded; abandoned; irrecoverable.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 18 Oct., 6, 1. It seems to me that Mr. Chamberlain must really look out or he will find himself, as the result of that insidious 'mellowing process' to which Mr. Matthews has testified, landed HIGH AND DRY in a Toryism compared to which Sir Walter Bartelot will show in Radical colours.

**HIGH AND MIGHTY**, *adv. phr.* (colloquial). — Arrogant; imperious; proud; 'on the high horse,' or the 'HIGH ROPES' (*q.v.*); full of SIDE (*q.v.*).

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 121. None of your HIGH and MIGHTY games with me.

1892. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Deacon Brodie*, l., 2. Ye need na be sae HIGH AND MIGHTY onyway.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 49. 'MIGHTY HIGH some people are, ain't they?' the man observed loudly, straightening himself, and ordering a nobbler for himself.

TOO HIGH FOR ONE'S NUT, *adv. phr.* (American).—Out of one's reach; beyond one's capacity; OVER ONE'S BEND (*q.v.*).

YOU CAN'T GET HIGH ENOUGH, *verb. phr.* (common).—A derisive comment on any kind of failure. [Probably obscene in origin.]

HOW IS THAT FOR HIGH? *phr.* (American).—'What do you think of it?' [Once a tag universal; common wear now.]

1860. BARTLETT, *Americanisms*, s.v. HIGH. For when he slapped my broad-brim off, and asked, How's THAT FOR HIGH? It roused the Adam in me, and I smote him hip and thigh!

1872. CLEMENS (Mark Twain), *Roughing It*, 334. We are going to get it up regardless of expense. [He] was always nifty himself, and so you bet his funeral ain't going to be no slouch,—solid silver door-plate on his coffin, six plumes on the hearse, and a nigger on the box in a biled shirt and a plug hat,—how's THAT FOR HIGH?

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 23 Sep., p. 2, c. 1. 'Cricket' stories are the thing just now. How IS THIS FOR HIGH?

HIGH-BELLIED (or HIGH IN THE BELLY), *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Far gone in pregnancy. Also HIGH-WAISTED.

HIGHBINDER, *subs.* (American).—1. A Chinese blackmailer.

2. (political American).—A political conspirator.—NORTON.

HIGH-BLOKE, *subs.* (American).—1. A judge.

2. (American).—A well-dressed man; a SPLAWGER (*q.v.*).—MAT-SELL.

HIGHER - MALTHUSIANISM, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—Sodomy.

HIGHFALUTE, *verb.* (American).—To use fine words. Also TO YARN (*q.v.*). See HIGHFALUTING. Fr., *faire l'étroite*.

HIGHFALUTING, *subs.* (formerly American: now general).—Bombast; rant.

1865. *Orchestra*. We should not think of using HIGH-FALUTIN on ordinary serious occasions, and that we never shall use it in future, unless we happen to speak of the *Porcupine* critic.

1886. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 3 May, 6, 2. A glib master of frothy fustian, of flatulent HIGH-FALUTIN', and of oratorical bombast.

*Adj.* (general).—Bombastic; fustian; thrasonical.

1870. FRISWELL, *Modern Men of Letters*. A driveller of tipsy, high-flown, and HIGH-FALUTIN' nonsense.

1884. *Echo*, 17 Mar., p. 1, c. 4. It is the boast of HIGH-FALUTIN' Americans that theirs is a country 'where every man can do as he darn pleases.'

HIGH-FEATHER. IN HIGH FEATHER, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—In luck; on good terms with oneself and the world.

HIGH-FLY. TO BE ON THE HIGH-FLY, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—Specifically, to practise the begging-letter imposture, but (generally) to tramp the country as a beggar.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime*, 163. The HIGH-FLY—beggars, with letters, pretending to be broken-down gentlemen, captains, etc.



1857. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assistant*, (3rd ed.), p. 445. Begging letters—THE HIGHFLY.

**HIGHFLYER**, *subs.* (old). — I. Anything or anybody out of the common, in opinion, pretension, attire, and so forth : as a prostitute (high - priced and well - dressed); an adventurer (superb in impudence and luck). 2. A dandy, male or female, of the first water 3. A fast coach.

1690 DRYDEN, *Prolog. to Mistakes in Wks.*, p. 473 (Globe). He's no HIGH-FLYER—he makes no sky-rockets, His squibs are only levelled at your pockets.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIGH-FLYERS, Impudent, Forward, Loose, Light Women. Also, bold adventurers.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, i., 1. Well, as HIGH a FLYER as you are, I have a lure may make you stoop.

1706. R. ESTCOURT, *Fair Example*, Act i., p. 10. You may keep company with the HIGHEST FLYER of 'em all.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, i. Mail-coach races against mail-coach, and HIGH-FLYER against HIGH-FLYER, through the most remote districts of Britain.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, v. As you have your HIGH-FLIERS at Almack's, at the West End, we have also some 'choice r eatures at our All Max in the East.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HIGH-FLYERS—women of the town, in keeping, who job a coach, or keep a couple of saddle-horses at least.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, (Ed. 1854), p. 75. Howsoever, the HIGH-FLYERS doesn't like him; and when he takes people's money, he need not be quite so cross about it!

1860 DICKENS, *Uncommercial Traveller*, xxii., p. 131. The old room on the ground floor where the passengers of the HIGH-FLYERS used to dine.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, i., 5. Mrs. Boffin, Wegg . . . is a 'IGHFLYER at fashion.

1892. MILLIKEN, '*Arry Ballads*, p. 40. Foller yer leader, . . . all who can carry sufficient skyscrapers to keep in the 'unt, with that 'IGHFLYER 'Arry.

4. (thieves').—A beggar with a certain style; a begging-letter writer; a broken swell.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 268. While pursuing the course of a HIGH-FLYER (genteel beggar)

1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, bk. III., ch. iii., p. 268. He was a HIGH-FLIER, a genteel beggar.

1887. *Standard*, 20 June, p. 5, c. 2. The pretended noblemen and knights who 'say they have suffered by war, fire, or captivity, or have been driven away, and lost all they had,' are still represented by the HIGH - FLYERS or broken-down gentlemen.

5. (circus).—A swing fixed in rows in a frame much in vogue at fairs.

**HIGH-FLYING**, *subs.* (old).—I. Extravagance in opinion; pretension or conduct.

1689. DRYDEN, *Epil. to Lee's Princess of Cleves*, 6. I railed at wild young sparks; but without lying Never was man worse thought on for HIGH-FLYING.

2. (thieves').—Begging; THE HIGH-FLY (*q.v.*); STILLING (*q.v.*).

**HIGH-GAG**, *subs.* (American).—A whisperer.—MATSELL.

THE HIGH-GAG, *subs. phr.* (American).—Telling secrets.—MATSELL.

**HIGH-GAME**, *subs.* thieves').—*See* quot.

1889. C. T. CLARKSON and J. HALL RICHARDSON, *Police*, p. 321. A mansion . . . a HIGH GAME.

**HIGH-GIG**. IN HIGH-GIG, *adv. phr.* (old).—In good fettle; lively. *Cf.*, GIG.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 15. Rather sprightly—the Bear IN HIGH-GIG.

**HIGH-GO**, *subs.* (common). — A drinking bout ; a frolic.

**HIGH-HEELED SHOES**. TO HAVE HIGH-HEELED SHOES ON, *verb. phr.* (American).—To set up as a person of consequence ; to DO THE GRAND (*q.v.*).

**HIGH HORSE**. TO BE (OR GET) ON (OR RIDE) THE HIGH HORSE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To give oneself airs ; to stand on one's dignity ; to take offence. [Fr. *monter sur ses grands chevaux*. The simile is common to most languages.]

1716. ADDISON, *Freeholder*, 5 Mar. He told me, he did not know what travelling was good for, but to teach a man to RIDE THE GREAT HORSE, to jabber French, and to talk against passive obedience.

1836. MARRVAT, *Midshipman Easy*, ch. xii. He was determined to RIDE THE HIGH HORSE—and that there should be no Equality Jack in future.

1842. *Comic Almanack*, p. 327. Yet Dublin deems the foul extortion fair, And swears that, as he's RIDDEN THE HIGH HORSE, So long and well, she now will make him mayor.

1864. *Times*, 5 July. Mr. Gladstone in the Dano-German Debate. The right hon. gentleman then GOT ON what I may call HIS HIGH HORSE, and he would not give us the slightest opinion upon any matter of substantive policy, because that, he said, would be accepting office upon conditions.

1868. WILKIE COLLINS, *The Moonstone*, and *Period*, 3rd Narr., ch. ii. Miss Rachael has her faults—'I've never denied it,' he began. 'AND RIDING THE HIGH HORSE now and then is one of them.'

**HIGH-JINKS**, *subs.* (old).—I. An old game variously played. [Most frequently dice were thrown by the company, and those upon whom the lot fell were obliged to assume and maintain for a time a certain fictitious character, or to

repeat a certain number of fescennine verses in a particular order. If they departed from the characters assigned . . . they incurred forfeits, which were compounded for by swallowing an additional bumper.—*Guy Mannering*, 1836. Note to ch. xxxii.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIGHJINKS, a Play at Dice who Drinks.

1780. RAMSAY, *Maggie Johnston*, i., 25. The queff or cup is filled to the brim, then one of the company takes a pair of dice, and after crying HY-JINKS, he throws them out ; the number he casts out points out the person that must drink ; he who threw beginning at himself number one, and so round till the number of the person agree with that of the dice (which may fall upon himself if the number be within twelve) ; then he sets the dice to him, or bids him take them ; he on whom they fall is obliged to drink, or pay a small forfeiture in money, then throws, and so on. But if he forgets to cry 'Hy-jinks' he pays a forfeiture into the bank. Now, he on whom it falls to drink (if there be anything in the bank worth drawing) gets it all if he drinks ; then with a great deal of caution he empties his cup, sweeps up the money, and orders the cup to be filled again, and then throws ; for if he errs in the articles he loses the privilege of drawing the money. The articles are—(1) Drink, (2) Draw, (3) Fill, (4) Cry 'Hy-jinks,' (5) Count just, (6) Chuse your doublet, man—viz., when two equal numbers of the dice is thrown, the person whom you chuse must pay a double of the common forfeiture, and so must you when the dice is in his hand (*sic*).

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xxxvi. The frolicsome company had begun to practise the ancient and now forgotten pastime of HIGH JINKS.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, lv. He had made an engagement to drive Lord Saltire, the next morning, up to Wargrave in a pony-chaise, to look at Barrymore House, and the place where the theatre stood, and where the game of HIGH JINKS had been played so bravely fifty years before.

2. See quot., and cf. sense I.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*. A gambler at dice, who, having a strong head, drinks to intoxicate his adversary, or pigeon. Under this head are also classed

those fellows who keep little goes, take in insurances; also, attendants at the races, and at the E O tables; chaps always on the look out to rob unwary countrymen at cards, etc.

3. (common).—A frolic; a row.  
[From sense I.]

1861. HUGHES, *Tom Brown at Oxford*, i. All sorts of HIGH JINKS go on on the grass plot.

1872. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 Sept. 'Filey the Retired.' Frisky Filey cannot assuredly be called. There are no HIGH JINKS on her jetty; and, besides, she hasn't got a jetty, only a 'Brigg.'

1890. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 24 July, 4, 2. Yesterday and to-day there have been HIGH JINKS in Petworth Park, rich and poor for miles round being invited, and right royally feasted on the coming of age of Lord and Lady Leconfield's eldest son.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 3 Apr. While Bank Holiday was being celebrated with such *éclat* at Kempton, they were carrying on HIGH JINKS over hurdles and fences at Manchester.

1892. *Sala's Journal*, 2 July, p. 223. HIGH JINKS with the telephone have been the order of the day at Warwick Castle; taps and wires have been turned on and off, and floods of melody of various kinds have delighted listening ears.

1893. *National Observer*, 25 Feb., ix., 357. Time was when there were HIGH JINKS in that vast quadrangle.

TO BE AT HIS HIGH JINKS, *phr.* (common).—To be stilted and arrogant in manner; to RIDE THE HIGH HORSE (*q.v.*). Fr., *faire sa merde* or *sa poire*.

HIGH-KICKER, *subs.* (colloquial).—Specifically, a dancer whose speciality is the high kick or the *porte d'armes*; whence, by metaphor, any desperate SPREESTER (*q.v.*), male or female.

HIGH-KILLED, *adj.* (Scots').—Obscene or thereabouts; FULL FLAVOURED (*q.v.*).

HIGHLAND-BAIL, *subs.* (Scots').—The right of the strongest; *force majeure*.

1816. SCOTT, *Antiquary*, ch. xxix. The mute eloquence of the miller and smith, which was vested in their clenched fists, was prepared to give HIGHLAND BAIL for their arbiter.

HIGH-LAWYER, *subs.* (old).—A highwayman. For synonyms, see ROAD AGENT.

1592. JOHN DAY, *Blind Beggar*, p. 21 (Ed. Bullen). He wo'd be your prigger, your prancer, your HIGH-LAWYER.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 50 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). He first gaue termes to robbers by the high-way, that such as robbe on horse-backe were called HIGH LAWYERS, and those who robbed on foote, he called Padders.

HIGH-LIVER, *subs.* (old).—A garret-tee; a thief housed in an attic. Hence, HIGH-LIVING = lodging in a garret.—*Lex. Bal.*

HIGH-MEN, *subs.* (old).—Dice loaded to show high numbers. Also, HIGH-RUNNERS. See FULHAMS and LOW-MEN.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Traveller in Wks.* [GROSART], v., 27. The dice of late are grown as melancholy as a dog, HIGH MEN and low men both prosper alike.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives*, i., 3. Let vultures gripe thy guts! for gourd and fullam holds, And HIGH and low beguiles the rich and poor.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Pise*, false dice, HIGH MEN or low men.

1605. *London Prodigal*, i., 1. I bequeath two bale of false dice, videlicet, HIGH MEN and low men, fullams, stop-catertraies, and other bones of function.

1615. HARRINGTON, *Epigrams*, i., 79. Your HIGH And low MEN are but trifles.

1657-1733. JOHN DENNIS, *Letters*, ii., 407. Shadwell is of opinion, that your bully, with his box and his false dice, is an honest fellow than the rhetorical author, who makes use of his tropes and figures, which are his HIGH and his low RUNNERS, to cheat us at once of our money and of our intellectuals.



1822. SCOTT, *Fort. of Nigel*, ch. xiii. Men talk of HIGH and low DICE.

**HIGH-NOSED**, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).

—Very proud in look and in fact; supercilious in bearing and speech; SUPERIOR (*q.v.*).

**HIGH- [or GAY-] OLD** (TIME, GAME, LIAR, etc.), *adj. phr.* (common).

—A general intensitive: *e.g.*, HIGH OLD TIME = a very merry time indeed; HIGH OLD LIAR = a liar of might; HIGH OLD DRUNK = an uncommon BOOZE (*q.v.*).

1883. *Referee*, 11 Mar., p. 3, c. 2. All the children who have been engaged in the Drury Lane pantomime took tea on the stage, and had a HIGH OLD TIME (while it lasted).

1888. J. MCCARTHY and MRS. CAMPBELL-PRAED, *Ladies' Gallery*, ch. xxxv. I went down to Melbourne, intending to have a HIGH OLD TIME.

1891. *Murray's Mag.*, Aug., p. 202. There will be a Want of Confidence Motion, and a HIGH OLD debate.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 7. You are a big fraud and a HIGH OLD liar.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 35. We'd the HIGHEST OLD game.

1892. F. ANSTEY, *Voces Populi*, 'The Riding Class,' p. 108. We've bin having a GAY OLD time in 'ere.

**HIGH-PAD** (or **TOBY**, or **HIGH-TOBY-SPLICE**), *subs.* (old).—I. The highway. Also, HIGH-SPLICE TOBY. For synonyms, *see* DRUM.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, p. 86. *Roge*, Nowe bynge we a waste to the HYGH PAD, the ruffmanes is by.

*c.* 1819. *Slang Song* (quoted in notes to *Don Juan*, x., 19). On the HIGH-TOBY-SPLICE flash the muzzle In spite of each gallows old scout.

1836. H. M. MILNER, *Turpin's Ride to York*, i., sc. 2. Come, lads a stirrup-cup at parting, and then hurrah for the game of HIGH-TOBY.

1876. HINDLEY, *Adventures of a Cheap Jack*, p. 4. Halting for a few hours at mid-day during the heat in the HIGH SPICE-TOBY, as we used to call the main road.

2. (old).—A highwayman. Also, HIGH-TOBYMAN (or GLOAK). For synonyms, *see* ROAD AGENT.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIGH PAD, a Highwayman, Highway Robber well Mounted and Armed.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HIGH TOBY-GLOAK, a highway robber well mounted.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. IV., ch. i. Tom King, a noted HIGH-TOBY GLOAK of his time.

1857. *Punch*, 31 Jan. (from slang song). That long over Newgit their Workshops may rule, As the HIGH-TOBY, mob, crack, and screeve model school.

3. (old).—Highway robbery.

1819. VAUX, *Cant. Dict.* HIGH-TOBY, the game of highway robbery, that is exclusively on horseback.

**HIGH-POOPED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Heavily buttocked.

**HIGH-RENTED**, *adj.* (popular).—I. Hot.

2. (thieves').—Very well known to the police; HOT (*q.v.*).

**HIGH-ROLLER**, *subs.* (American).—A GOER (*q.v.*); a fast liver; a heavy gambler; a HIGHFLYER (*q.v.*).

1887. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Moccasin*, He's a HIGH-ROLLER, by gum!

**HIGH-ROPES**. TO BE ON THE HIGH ROPES, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be angry or excited. Also to put on airs; to stand on one's dignity; to ride the HIGH-HORSE (*q.v.*).

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. TO BE ON THE HIGH ROPES, to be in a passion.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

1866. YATES, *Land at Last*, ii. He's ON THE HIGH ROPES, is Master Charley! Some of you fellows have been lending him half a-crown, or that fool Caniche has bought one of his pictures for seven-and-six!

**HIGH-SEASONED** (or **HIGHLY-SPICED**), *adj.* (colloquial).—Obscene. For synonyms, *see* SPICY.

**HIGH-** (or **CLOUTED-**) **SHOON**, *subs.* (old).—A countryman. For synonyms, *see* JOSKIN.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HIGH-SNIFFING**, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Pretentious; supercilious; very obviously better than one's company; **HIGH-NOSED** (*q.v.*).

**HIGH-STEPPER**, *subs.* (common).—An exemplar, male or female, of what is fashionable in conversation, conduct, or attire; a SWELL (*q.v.*). Also, a person of spirit. Whence, *adj.*, **HIGH-STEPPING** (or **HIGH-PACING**) = conspicuously elegant or gallant in dress, speech, manner, conduct, anything.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody of Nowhere*, ch. ix. From her actions and style I'm pretty certain she's English and a **HIGH-STEPPER**.

**HIGH-STOMACHED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Proud; disdainful; very valiant.

**HIGH-STRIKES**, *subs.* (common).—A corruption of 'hysteries.'

1833. SELBY, *Jacques Strop*, ii., 4. Capital! . . . didn't I do the **HIGH-STRIKES** famously.

1860. MISS WETHERELL, *Say and Seal*, ch. vii. She wants you to come. I'm free to confess she's got the **HIGH-STRIKES** wonderful.

**HIGH-TEA**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A tea with meat, etc. In Lancashire **BAGGING** (*q.v.*).

1888. *Sporting Life*, 15 Dec. Following run there will be **HIGH-TEA** and a grand smoking concert, to which visitors are cordially invited.

**HIGH-TI**, *subs.* (American: Williams Coll.).—A showy recitation; at Harvard = a **SQUIRT** (*q.v.*).

**HIGH-TIDE** (or **WATER**) *subs.* (colloquial).—Rich for the moment; The state of being **FLUSH** (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* **WELL-BALASTED**.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HIGH TIDE** when the Pocket is full of Money.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. **HIGH-TIDE**—plenty of the possibles; whilst 'low-water' implies empty clies.

**UP TO HIGH-WATER MARK**, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—In good condition; a general expression of approval.

**HIGH-TOBY**. *See* **HIGH PAD**.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. v. Oh! the game of **HIGH-TOBY** for ever

**HIGH-TONED**, *adj.* (American).—Aristocratic; also, morally and intellectually endowed; spiritually beyond the common. **HIGH-SOULED** = cultured; fashionable. **HIGH-TONED NIGGER** = a negro who has raised himself in social position. [Once literary; now utterly discredited and never used, save in ignorance or derision.] Stokes, the maniac who shot Garfield, described himself as a '**HIGH-TONED Lawyer**.'

1884. PHILLIPS WOOLLEY, *Trottings of a Tender Foot*. I never saw any so-called **HIGH-TONED NIGGERS**.

1893. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 1 Feb., p. 389, 1. One day a fashionably-dressed young man, giving an address in a HIGHTONED suburb, called upon Messrs. Glitter.

**HIGHTY-TIGHTY** (or HOITY-TOITY), *subs.* (old).—A wanton.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HIGHTETITY, a Ramp, or Rude Girl.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

*Adj.* (colloquial). — Peremptory; waspish; quarrelsome.

1848. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch. xviii. La, William, don't be so HIGHTY-TIGHTY with us. We're not men.

**HIGH WOOD.** TO LIVE IN HIGH WOOD, *verb. phr.* (common).—To hide; to dissemble of purpose; to lie low and keep quiet.

**HIGULCION-FLIPS**, *subs.* (Texas).—An imaginary ailment.

**HIKE**, *verb.* (old).—To move about. Also to carry off; to arrest.

1811. *Lexicon Baltronicum*, s.v. HIKE. To HIKE OFF; to run away.

1884. *Daily Telegraph*, 2 Feb., p. 3, c. 1. We three, not having any reglar homes nor a steady job of work to stick to, HIKE ABOUT for a living, and we live in the cellar of a empty house.

**HILDING**, *subs.* (old).—A jade; a wanton; a disreputable slut.

1593. SHAKESPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, ii., 1. For shame thou HILDING of a devilish spirit.

1595. SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, ii., 4. HILDINGS and harlots.

**HILL.** NOT WORTH A HILL OF BEANS, *phr.* (American).—Absolutely worthless.

**HILLS**, *subs.* (Winchester Coll.).—1. St. Catharine's Hill.

1870. MANSFIELD, *School Life*, p. 28. Some of his principal duties were to take the boys 'on to HILLS,' call names there, etc.

2. (Cambridge Univ.).—The Gogmagog Hills; a common morning's ride. *Gradus ad Cantab.*

**HILLY**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Difficult: e.g., HILLY READING=hard to read; HILLY GOING=not easy to do; etc.

**HILT.** LOOSE IN THE HILT, *adv. phr.* (old).—Unsteady; ROCKY (*q.v.*); lax in the bowels.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*. 'Bum-fodder,' ii., 56. If they stay longer, they will us beguile With a Government that is LOOSE IN THE HILT.

**HIND-BOOT**, *subs.* (common).—The breech. For synonyms, see MONOCULAR EYEGLASS.

**HIND-COACHWHEEL**, *subs.* (common).—A five shilling piece. Fr., *roue de derrière*, *thune*, or *palet*, = a five-franc piece. For synonyms, see CAROON.

**HINDER-BLAST**, *subs.* (old).—Creptitation.

1540 LINDSAY, *Thrie Estaitis* [in *Bannatyne MSS.*, Hunterian Club, ed., 1879-88], p. 511 line 1429-30. Scho hes sic runling in her wame, That all the nycht my hairt ouercastis With bokking and with HINDER BLASTIS.

**HINDER-END**, *subs. phr.* (common).—The breech. Also, HINDER-PARTS and HINDER-WORLD.

**HINDER-ENTRANCE**, *subs. phr.* (common).—The fundament.

**HIND-LEG.** TO KICK OUT A HIND LEG, *verb. phr.* (old).—To lout; to make a rustic bow.



TO TALK THE HIND LEG OFF  
A HORSE (OR DOG). *See* TALK.

TO SIT UPON ONE'S HIND LEGS  
AND HOWL, *verb. phr.* (American).  
—To bemoan one's fate; to make  
a hullabaloo.

**HINDOO**, *subs.* (American). — *See*  
KNOW NOTHING.

**HINDOO PUNISHMENT**, *subs.*  
*phr.* (circus). — *See* quot.

1875. FROST, *Circus Life*, ch. xviii.  
The HINDOO PUNISHMENT is what is more  
often called the muscle grind, a rather  
painful exercise upon the bar, in which  
the arms are turned backward to embrace  
the bar, and then brought forward upon  
the chest, in which position the performer  
revolves.

**HIND-SHIFTERS**, *subs.* (old). —  
The feet. For synonyms, *see*  
CREEPERS.

1823. LAMB, *Elia*, *Wks.*, (Ed. 1852),  
p. 311. They would show as fair a pair of  
HIND-SHIFTERS as the expertest *loco-motor*  
in the colony.

**HINGES**. OFF THE HINGES, *adv.*  
*phr.* (common). — In confusion;  
out of sorts; 'not quite the thing.'

**HINTERLAND**, *subs.* (old). — The  
breach.

**HIP**, (*in. pl.*), *subs.* (colloquial).  
—Conventional—as in the pro-  
verb, 'Free of her lips; free  
of her hips'—for the buttocks.  
Hence, to WALK WITH THE  
HIPS=to make play with the  
posteriors in walking; LONG IN  
THE HIPS; and HIPS TO SELL=  
broad in the beam; NIMBLE-  
HIPPED=active in copulation.

c. 1508. DUNBAR, *Poems*, 'Of a Dance  
in the Queenis Chalmers' (1836), l. 119.  
His HIPPIES gaff mony a hiddouss cry. *Ibid.*  
l. 124. 'Of Ane Blak-moir.' . . . Sall  
cum behind and kiss hir HIPPIES.

1540. LINDSAY, *Thrie Estaitis*, line  
3227. My craig will wit quhat weyis my  
HIPPIES. *Ibid.*, line 4424. Ye wald not  
stick to preise my graith With hobbling of  
your HIPPIES.

c. 1580. *Collier of Croydon*, iv., l.  
(DODDSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, 459).  
I keep her lips and her HIPS for my own  
use.

d. 1607. MONTGOMERIE, *Poems*, 'Pol-  
wart and Montgomerie's Flying', p. 85,  
line 779 (Scottish Text Soc., 1885-6).  
Kailly lippes, kiss my HIPS.

TO HAVE (GET, OR CATCH) ON  
THE HIP, *verb. phr.* (old). — To  
have (or get) an advantage.  
[From wrestling.]

1591. HARRINGTON, *Orlando Furioso*,  
bk. xlv., st. 117. In fine he doth apply  
one speciall drift, Which was to GET the  
pagan on THE HIP, And having caught  
him right, he doth him lift By nimble  
sleight, and in such wise doth trip That  
down he threw him.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of*  
*Venice*, i. 3. If I can CATCH him once  
UPON THE HIP, I will feed fat the ancient  
grudge I bear him.

1605. MARSTON, *Dutch Courtesan*.  
iii., 1. He said he had you A THE HYP.

1617. ANDREWEES, *Sermons* ('Library  
of Ang.-Cath. Theology'), Vol. IV., p.  
365. If he HAVE us at the advantage, ON  
THE HIP as we say, it is no great matter  
then to get service at our hands.

1635. D. DIKE, *Michael and the*  
*Dragon*, in *Wks.*, p. 328. The Divell  
HATH them ON THE HIP, he may easily  
bring them to anything.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.  
UPON THE HIP . . . at an Advantage in  
Wrestling, or Business.

1697. VANERUGH, *Relapse*, iv., 1.  
My lord, she has had him UPON THE HIP  
these seven years.

1812. JOHNSON, *Eng. Dict.* HIP,  
s.v., A low phrase.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT, *Cruise of the*  
*Midge*, p. 226. 'Ha! ha! I HAVE you  
ON THE HIP now, my master,' shouted  
Peter.

**HIPE**, *subs.* (wrestling). — A throw  
over the hip. Hence HIPE, *verb*  
= to get across the hip before the  
throw.

**HIP-HOP**, *verb* (old).—To skip or move on one leg; to hop. 'A cant word framed by the reduplication of hop.'—JOHNSON, 1812.

1670-1729. CONGREVE [Quoted in JOHNSON'S *Eng. Dict.*]. Like Volscius HIP-HOP in a single boot.

**HIP-INSIDE**, *subs.* (thieves').—An inner pocket. HIP-OUTSIDE = an outer ditto.

1857. SNOWDEN, *Mag. Assistant* (3rd Ed.), p. 445, s.v.

**HIPPED** (or **HIPPISH**), *adj.* (common).—Bored; melancholical; out of sorts. [From **HYPOCHONDRIA**.]

1710. GAY, *Wine in Wks.* (1811) p. 348. By cares depress'd, in pensive HIPPISH mood.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 284. I cannot forbear writing to you, to tell you I have been to the last degree HIPPED since I saw you.

1837. BARHAM *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Babes in the Wood.' The wicked old Uncle, they say, In spite of his riot and revel, Was HIPPISH and qualmish all day, And dreamt all night long of the devil.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, bk. III, ch. x. 'You are a little HIPPED, dear fellow,' said Eugene; you have been too sedentary. Come and enjoy the pleasures of the chase.'

**HIPPEN**, *subs.* (Scots': colloquial).—A baby's napkin (*i.e.*, HIPPING cloth). Also (theatrical), the green curtain.

**HIREN**, *subs.* (old).—1. A prostitute. [A corruption of 'Irene,' the heroine in Poole's play: see quot. 1584.] For synonyms, see **BARRACK-HACK** and **TART**.

1584. POOLE, *The Turkish Mahomet and Hyren the Fair Greek*. Note. In Italian called a *courtesan*; in Spaine a *margarite*; in English . . . a punk.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, ii., 4. Have we not HIREN here?

1615. ADAMS, *Spiritual Navigator*. There be sirens in the sea of the world. Syrens? *Hirens*, as they are now called. What a number of these sirens [HIRENS], cockatrices, courtegians, in plain English, harlots, swimme amongst us!

d. 1618. SYLVESTER, *Trans. Du Bartas' Week of Creation*, ii., 2, pt. 3. Of charming sin the deep-inchaunting syrens, The snares of virtue, valour-softening HYRENS.

2. (old).—A sword. Also a roaring bully; a fighting Hector. [From Irene = the Goddess of Peace, a *lucus a non lucendo*.]

**HISHEE-HASHEE**. See **SOAP-AND-BULLION**.

**HIS NIBS** (or **NABS**). See **NIBS**.

**HISS**. **THE HISS**, *subs. phr.* (Winchester College).—The signal of a master's approach.

**HISTORICAL- (WROUGHT, or ILLUSTRATED-) SHIRT**, *subs.* (old).—A shirt or shift worked or woven with pictures or texts.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man out of his Humour*, iv., 6. I wonder he speaks not of his WROUGHT-SHIRT.

1639. MAYNE, *City Match*, ii., 2. My *smock* sleeves have such holy imbroderies, And are so learned that I fear in time, All my apparel will be quoted by Some pure instructor.

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Custom of the County*, ii., 1. Having a mistress, sure you should not be Without a neat HISTORICAL-SHIRT.

1848. *Punch*, XIV., 226. He never broke a bank, He shuls cross-barred trousers, His linen is not ILLUSTRATED, but beautifully clean.

1851. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, I., 51. Colored, or ILLUSTRATED SHIRTS, as they are called, are especially objected to by the men.

1889. *Puck's Library*, Apr., p. 12. Being an educated man, I feel ten thousand woes, Cavoring for the populace IN ILLUSTRATED CLOTHES.

**HISTORY OF THE FOUR KINGS.**  
See FOUR KINGS.

**HIT**, *subs.* (common).—A success; *e.g.*, To MAKE A HIT=to score; to profit; to excel.

1602. MARSTON, *Antonio and Mellida*. Induction. When use hath taught me action to HIT the right point of a ladie's part.

1700. CONGREVE, *Way of the World*, ii., 5. A HIT, a HIT! a palpable hit! I confess it.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, bk. I., ch. i. 'Teach me to make a HIT of so *Kean* a quality that it may not only 'tell,' but be long remembered in the metropolis.

1822-36. JNO. WILSON, *Noctes Amb.*, *Wks.* II., 210. Mr. Peel seems to have MADE A HIT in the chief character of Shiel's play, *The Apostate*.

1828-45. T. HOOD, *Poems*, v., p. 197, (Ed. 1846). Nor yet did the heiress herself omit The arts that help to MAKE A HIT.

1870. *Figaro*, 10 June. To MAKE A GREAT HIT is, after all, more a matter of chance than merit.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 3 July. Madam Melba MAKES AN ESPECIAL HIT in the valse from *Roméo et Juliette*.

1889. *Referee*, 6 Jan. Quite A HIT HAS BEEN MADE by the clever juvenile, La Petite Bertoto.

*Adj.* (Old Bailey).—Convicted.

**HARD-HIT**, *adj. phr.* (colloquial).—Sore beset; **HARD-UP** (*g.v.*). Also deep in love (or grief, or anger).

1890. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 7 Nov. It was pretty generally known that he had been **HARD HIT** during the season.

*Verb* (American).—To arrive at; to light upon.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, Oct. Professor Rose, who HIT this town last spring, is around calling us a fugitive from justice.

To HIT IT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To attain an object; to light on a device; to guess a secret.

1594. SHAKSPEARE, *Love's Labour Lost*, iv., 1. Thou canst not HIT IT, HIT IT, HIT IT, Thou canst not HIT IT, my good man.

1596. SHAKSPEARE, *Merry Wives*, iii., 2. I can never HIT one's name.

1773. O. GOLDSMITH, *She Stoops to Conquer*. Ecod, I have HIT IT. It's here. Your hands. Yours and yours, my poor sulky! My boots there, ho! Meet me two hours hence at the bottom of the garden.

1880. A. TROLLOPE, *The Duke's Children*, ch. lii. He dressed himself in ten minutes, and joined the party as they had finished their fish. 'I am awfully sorry,' he said, rushing up to his father, 'but I thought that I should just HIT IT.'

To HIT OFF, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To agree together; to fit; to describe with accuracy and precision.

1857. A. TROLLOPE, *Barchester Towers*, ch. xxxiv. It is not always the case that the master, or warden, or provost, or principal can HIT IT OFF exactly with his tutor. A tutor is by no means indisposed to have a will of his own.

1880. A. TROLLOPE, *The Duke's Children*, ch. xxxvi. 'One gentleman with another, you mean?' 'Put it so. It don't quite HIT IT OFF, but put it so.'

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*. 'Sidelight,' ch. xiv. 'Hey!' said Orford. 'Didn't you and he HIT IT OFF?'

1889. *Daily News*, 22 Oct., p. 5. The nations that quarrel are the nations that do not HIT IT OFF on some point of feeling or taste.

To HIT THE FLAT, *verb. phr.* (American cowboy).—To go out on the prairie.



TO HIT THE PIPE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To smoke opium.

TO HIT ONE WHERE HE LIVES, *verb. phr.* (American).—To touch in a tender part; to hurt the feelings; TO TOUCH ON THE RAW (*q.v.*).

HIT (or STRUCK) WITH, *adv. phr.* (colloquial). — Taken; enamoured; prepossessed. Also, HIT UP WITH.

1891. *Tales from Town Topics*. 'Count Candawles,' p. 28. She is very amusing, but the Count cannot be really HIT WITH such a little mountebank.

HIT ON THE TAIL, *verb. phr.* (old venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Bowge of Courte*. How oft he HIT Jonet ON THE TAYLE.

HIT IN THE TEETH, *verb. phr.* (old).—To reproach; to taunt; to fling in one's face.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, ii., 6 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 431). They are always HITTING ME IN THE TEETH with a man of my coat.

HITCH, *verb* (American).—I. To marry. HITCHED = married.

1867. BROWNE, *Artemus Ward's Courtship*, People's ed., p. 23. If you mean getting HITCHED, I'm in.

1833. L. OLIPHANT, *Altiora Peto*, II., xxix., 156. 'How long is it since we parted, Ned?' 'A matter of five years; and it wasn't my fault if we didn't stay HITCHED till now.'

1892. *Tit-Bits*, 17 Sept., p. 419, c. 1. 'We've come to get HITCHED,' said the man, bashfully.

2. (American). — To agree. Also, TO HITCH HORSES.

TO HITCH ONE'S TEAM TO THE FENCE, *verb. phr.* (American).—To settle down.

HITTITE, *subs.* (pugilists').—A prize fighter.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Basher; bruiser; dukester; fistite; knight of the fist; gemman of the fancy; milling-cove; pug; puncher; scrapper; slasher; slogger; slugger; sparring-bloke.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HITTITES—boxers and ring-goers assembled.

1860. THE DRUID, *Post and Paddock*. 'The Fight for the Belt.' And the Sherwood Ranger, bold Bendigo, is on training no more intent; But the trout full well that ex-HITTITE know On a Summer's eve in the Trent.

HIVE, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. Cf. HONEY. Hence, verbally, TO HIVE IT = to effect intromission.

*Verb* (American cadet).—To steal. For synonyms, see FRIG.

TO GET HIVED, *verb. phr.* (American Cadets' and popular). —I. To be caught out in a scrape. Also, to be hidden. TO BE HIVED PERFECTLY FRIGID = to be caught in *flagrante delicto*.

HIVER, *subs.* (Western American). —A travelling bawd.

HIVITE, *subs.* (school).—A student of St. Bees' (Cumberland).

1865. *John Bull*, 11 Nov. To be a HIVITE has long been considered a little worse than a 'literate' . . . Of the value of some St. Bees testimonials we may form an estimate, etc., etc.

HOAKY. BY THE HOAKY, *intj.* (nautical). — A popular form of adjuration.

**HOAX**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).

—A jest; a practical joke; a TAKE-IN. Originally (GROSE) University cant. [Probably from HOCUS (*q.v.*).]

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.), s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HOAXING. Bantering, ridiculing. HOAXING a quiz; joking an odd fellow.—*University wit.*

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. iii. Those humble efforts at jocularity were chiefly confined to what were then called bites and bams, since denominated HOAXES and quizzes.

1835-7. RICHARDSON, *Dict. Eng. Lang.*, s.v. HOAX. Malone considers the modern slang HOAX as derived from *hocus*, and Archdeacon Nares agrees with him.

*Verb.* To play a practical joke; to 'take-in'; to BITE (*q.v.*). *See subs. sense.* For synonyms, *see* GAMMON.

1812. COMBE, *Syntax, Picturesque*, xix. An arch young sprig, a banker's clerk, Resolv'd to HOAX the rev'rend spark.

1854. F. E. SMEDLEY, *Harry Coverdale*, ch. viii. I thought you were HOAXING us, and I sat down to play the duet for the amiable purpose of exposing your ignorance.

**HOB (or HOBBINOL)**, *subs.* (old).—A clown.—GROSE.

**HOB AND NOB (or HOB NOB)**, *verb.* (old). — I. To invite to drink; to clink glasses.

1756. FOOTE, *Englishman from Paris*, i. With, perhaps, an occasional interruption of 'Here's to you, friends,' 'HOB OR NOB,' 'Your love and mine.'

1759. TOWNLEY, *High Life Below Stairs*, ii. *Duke.* Lady Charlotte, HOB OR NOB. *Lady Char.* Done, my lord; in Burgundy, if you please.

1772. GRAVES, *Spiritual Quixote*, bk. VIII., ch. xxi. (new Ed., 1808). Having drunk HOB OR NOB with a young lady in whose eyes he wished to appear a man of consequence, he hurried out into the summer-house.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HOB NOB—two persons pledging each other in a glass.

1836. HORACE SMITH, *Tin Trumpet*, 'Address to a Mummy.' Perchance that very hand now pinioned flat, Has HOBAN-NOBBED with Pharoah glass for glass.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. xxx. He would have liked to HOB AND NOB with celebrated pick-pockets, or drink a pot of ale with a company of burglars and cracksmen.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 68. So the pair sat down and HOB-AN-NOBBED.

2. (old).—To give or take; to hit or miss at random. [Saxon, *habban*, to have; *nabban*, not to have.]

1577-87. HOLINSHED, *Chronicles of Englande, Scotlande, and Irelande* (1807) p. 317. The citizens in their rage shot HABBE OR NABBE (*hit or miss*) at random.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, iii., 4. HOB-NOB is his word, give 't or take 't.

1615. HARRINGTON, *Epigrams*, iv. Not of Jack Straw, with his rebellious crew, That set king, realm, and laws, at HAB OR NAB.

1673. *Quack Astrologer*. He writes of the weather HAB NAB, and as the toy takes him, chequers the year with foul and fair.

3. (colloquial).—To be on terms of close intimacy; to consort familiarly together.

1870. MARK TWAIN, *Innocents Abroad*, ch. i. They were to HOB-NOR with nobility and hold friendly converse with kings and princes.

1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 109. I had HOB-NOBBED for the last two hours with the most notorious bushranger in the colony.

1892. A. K. GREEN, *Cynthia Wakeham's Money*, p. 5. Each tree looks like a spectre HOB-NOBBING with its neighbour.

**HOBBS'S-VOYAGE**, *subs.* (old).—A leap in the dark.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, v., 6. So, now, I am in for HOBBS'S VOYAGE; a great leap in the dark.

**HOBBINOL**, *subs.* (old).—A countryman. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, ii., 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 396). Who, Master Jeffrey? HOBBINOL the second! By this life, 'tis a very veal, and licks his nose like one.

**HOBBLE**. IN A HOBBLE (or HOB-  
BLED), *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—  
In trouble; hampered; puzzled.  
Also (thieves), committed for  
trial. Fr., *tomber dans la mêlasse*  
(= to come a cropper), and *faitré*  
(= BOOKED (*q.v.*)). HOBbled  
UPON THE LEGS = transported,  
or on the hulks.

1777. FOOTE, *Trip to Calais* (1795),  
ii., p. 39. But take care what you say! you  
see what a HOBBLE we had like to have got  
into.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*,  
p. 163. A term when any of the gang is  
taken up and committed for trial, to say,  
such a one is HOBbled.

1811. POOLE, *Hamlet Travestie*,  
iii., 5. Horatio, I am sorry for this  
squabble; I fear 'twill get me in a  
precious HOBBLE.

1819. VAUX, *Cant. Dict.*, s.v.  
HOBbled, taken up, or in custody; to  
HOBBLE a plant, is to spring it.

1838. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 2nd  
S., ch. xvii. A body has to be cautious  
if he don't want to get into the centre of a  
HOBBLE.

1849. *Punch, Fortune - Tellers' Almanack*. To dream that you are lame  
is a token that you will get into a HOBBLE.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p.  
44. I got into a 'OBBLE.

*Verb* (venery).—See quot.

1688. SEMPILL, 'Crissell Sandilands'  
in *Bannatyne MSS.* (Hunterian Club,  
1879-88), p. 354, lines 21-2. Had scho  
bene undir, and he HOBland above, That  
were a perellous play for to suspect them.

**HOBBLEDEHOY**, *subs.* (old, now col-  
loquial).—A growing gawk: as  
in the folk-rhyme, 'Hobbledehoy,  
neither man nor boy.' [For deri-  
vation, see *Notes and Queries*, 1  
S., v., 468, vii., 572; 4 S., ii.,  
297, viii., 451, ix., 147; 7 S., iv.,  
523, and v., 58.]

1557. TUSSEY, *Husbandrie*, ch. 60,  
st 3, p. 138 (E. D. S.). The first seven  
yeers bring vp as a childe, The next to  
learning, for waxing too wilde. The next  
keepe vnder sir HOBbard de hoy, The  
next a man no longer a boy,

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Convers.*, Dial  
1. Why, he is a mere HOBbledehoy,  
neither a man nor a boy.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*,  
'Aunt Fanny.' At the epoch I speak  
about, I was between a man and a boy, A  
HOBble-de-hoy, A fat, little, punchy con-  
cern of sixteen.

1848. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ch.  
iv. He remembered perfectly well being  
thrashed by Joseph Sedley, when the  
latter was a big, swaggering, HOBbady-  
hoy, and George an impudent urchin of  
ten years old.

Hence HOBbledehoyish and  
HOBbledehoyhood.



1812. COLMAN, *Poetical Vagaries*, p. 12 (2nd Ed.). When Master Daw full fourteen years had told, He grew, as it is term'd, HOBDEYHOVISH; For Cupidons and Fairies much too old, For Calibans and Devils much too boyish.

1839. THACKERAY, *Fatal Boots*, Apr. From boyhood until HOBADYHOVHOOD (which I take to be about the sixteenth year of the life of a young man).

1848. THACKERAY, *Book of Snobs*, ch. xlii. A half-grown, or HOBBADEYHOVISH footman, so to speak, walked after them.

**HOBLEDEJEE**, *subs.* (old).—A pace between a walk and a run; a jog-trot.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

**HOBBLER**, *subs.* (nautical).—A coast-man, half smuggler, half handyman; an unlicensed pilot. Also a landsman acting as tow-Jack.—SMYTH. ALSO (Isle of Man), a boatman.

1887. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 226. An' the HOBBLERS there was terr'ble divarted.

**HOBBY**, *subs.* (old).—A hackney; a horse in common use.

1606. *Return from Parnassus*, ii., 6 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 151). An't please you, your HOBBY will meet you at the lane's end. *Idem* (p. 154). Is not my master an absolute villain that loves his hawk, his HOBBY, and his greyhound more than any mortal creature? *Idem* (p. 145). Sirrah, boy, hath the groom saddled my hunting HOBBY?

2. (university).—A translation. TO RIDE HOBBIES = to use CRIES (q.v.).

SIR POSTHUMOUS HOBBY, *subs. phr.* (old).—One nice or whimsical in his clothes.

**HOBBY-HORSE**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—1. A whim; a fancy; a favourite pursuit. Hence HOBBYHORSICAL = strongly attached to a particular fad.

1759. STERNE, *Tristan Shandy* (1793), ch. vii., p. 18. Have they not had their HOBBY-HORSES?

d. 1768. STERNE, *Letters* (1793), letter 19, p. 65. 'Tis in fact my HOBBY-HORSE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOBBY HORSE, a man's favourite amusement, or study, is called his HOBBY HORSE.

1893. *Westminster Gaz.*, 15 Mar., p. 9, c. 1. We quarrel a bit—he is so HOBBY-HORSICAL, you can't avoid it—and then we make friends again.

2. (colloquial).—A rantipole girl; a wench; a wanton.

1594. SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour Lost*, iii., 1. Call'st thou my love HOBBY-HORSE? *Moth.* No, master; the HOBBY-HORSE is but a colt, and your love, perhaps a hackney.

1604. SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, i., 2. They say my wife's a HOBBY-HORSE.

3. (old).—A witless and unmannerly lout.

1609. JONSON, *Epicæne*, iv., 2. *Daw.* Here be in presence have tasted of her favors. *Cler.* What a neighing HOBBY-HORSE is this!

*Verb* (old).—To romp.

**HOB-COLLINGWOOD**, *subs. phr.* (North Country).—The four of hearts, considered an unlucky card.

**HOB-JOBBER**, *subs.* (streets).—A man or boy on the look out for small jobs—holding horses, carrying parcels, and the like.

**HOB-NAIL**, *subs.* (old).—A countryman. For synonyms, see JOSKIN.

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Women Pleased*, ii., 6. The HOB-NAIL thy husband's as fitly out o' th' way now.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOBNAIL, a country clodhopper, from the shoes of country farmers and ploughmen being commonly stuck full of HOBNAILS, and even often clouted, or tipped with iron.

**HOBNAILED**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Boorish; clumsy; coarse; ill-done.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man out of his Humour*. *Sog.* A wretched HOB-NAILED chuff.

**HOBSON'S-CHOICE**, *subs.* (common).

—That or none : *i.e.*, there is no alternative. [Popularly derived from the name of a Cambridge livery stable keeper, whose rule was that each customer must take the horse next the door, or have no horse at all. That old Hobson existed is clear from Milton's epitaph, but Belenden Ker (*Archæology of Popular Phrases*) affirms the story to be a Cambridge hoax, and maintains the proverb to be identical in sound and sense as the Low Saxon, *Op soens schie ho eysche* = when he had a kiss he wanted something else.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOBSON'S CHOICE, that or None.

1710. WARD, *England's Reformation*, ch. iv. 'Tis HOBSON'S CHOICE, take that or none.

1712. STEELE, *Spectator*, No. 509, p. 191. I shall conclude this discourse with an explanation of a proverb [HOBSON'S CHOICE], which by vulgar error is taken and used when a man is reduced to an extremity, whereas the propriety of the maxim is to use it when you would say there is plenty, but you must make such a choice as not to hurt another who is to come after you. *Ibid.* He [HOBSON] kept a stable of forty good cattle, always ready and fit for travelling; but when a man came for a horse he was led into the stable, where there was great choice, but was obliged to take the horse which stood nearest to the

stable-door; so that every customer was alike well served, according to his chance, and every horse ridden with the same justice.

1717. CIBBER, *Non-Suor*, i. Can any woman think herself happy that's obliged to marry only with a HOBSON'S CHOICE?

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1820. REYNOLDS [Peter Corcoran], *The Fancy*. Black men now are HOBSON'S CHOICE.

1851. F. E. SMEDLEY, *Lewis Arundel*, ch. liii. 'When shall we go?' inquired Laura. 'Why, it's a case of HOBSON'S CHOICE,' returned Leicester.

1854. *Notes and Queries*, 21 Jan., p. 51. It was clear a choice had been given to him, but it was a HOBSON'S CHOICE.

**HOCK**, *subs.* (American).—1. The last card in the dealer's box at faro. [From SODA (*q.v.*) TO HOCK = from beginning to end.

2. *In pl.* (common).—The feet. CURBY HOCKS = clumsy feet. For synonyms, *see* CREEPERS. [From the stable.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOCKS . . . you have left the marks of your dirty HOCKS on my clean stairs.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**OLD HOCK**, *subs. phr.* (common).—Stale beer; SWIPES (*q.v.*). *See* HOCKEY.

**IN HOCK**, *adv. phr.* (general).—Laid by the heels; fleeced; BESTED (*q.v.*). ; and (thieves'), in prison.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*. 'If the cove should be caught IN THE HOCK he won't snickle,' if the fellow should be caught in the act, he would not tell.

**HOCK-DOCKIES**, *subs.* (old).—Shoes. For synonyms, *see* TROTTER-CASES.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 173. Shoes. HOCKEY-DOCKEYS.

**HOCKEY**, *adj.* (old).—Drunk, especially on stale beer. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.), s.v.

**HOCUS**, *subs.* (old : now recognised). — I. A cheat ; an imposter. [An abbreviation of HOCUS - POCUS (*q.v.*).]

1654. WITTS *Recreations*. Here HOCAS lyes with his tricks and his knocks, Whom death hath made sure as a juglers box ; Who many hath cozen'd by his leiger-delain, Is presto convey'd and here underlain. Thus HOCAS he's here, and here he is not, While death plaid the HOCAS, and brought him to th' pot.

2. (old : now recognised).—Drugged liquor.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HOCUS or HOCUS POCUS . . . A deleterious drug mixed with wine, etc., which enfeebles the person acted upon.

*Adj.* (old).—*See* *quots.* For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HOCUS, disguised in Liquor ; drunk.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOCUS POCUS, he is quite HOCUS, he is quite drunk.

*Verb* (old : now recognised).—

I. To cheat ; to impose upon.

2. (old : now recognised).—To drug ; TO SNUFF (*q.v.*).

1838. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xiii., p. 104. 'What do you mean by HOCUSING brandy and water?' inquired Mr. Pickwick. 'Puttin' laund'num in it,' replied Sam.

1836. *Comic Almanack*, p. 1. For that we HOCUSS'D first his drink.

1848. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, II., ch. xxix. Mr. Frederick Pigeon avers that it was at her house at Lausanne that he was HOCUSED at supper and lost eight hundred pounds to Major Loder and the Honourable Mr. Deucease.

154. DE QUINCEY, *Murder as one of the Fine Arts*, Wks., xiii., 119. Him

they intended to disable by a trick then newly introduced amongst robbers, and termed HOCUSSING, *i.e.*, clandestinely drugging the liquor of the victim with laudanum.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HOCUS . . . 'HOCUS the bloke's lush, and then frisk his sacks,' put something into the fellow's drink that will stupify him, and then search his pockets.

1859. *The Bulletin*, 21 May. An offence which goes by the name of HOCUSSING, and which consists of an evil doer furtively introducing laudanum or some other narcotic into beer or spirits, which the victim drinks and, becoming stupified thereby, is then easily robbed.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, bk. II., ch. xii. I will not say a HOCUSED wine, but fur from a wine as was 'elthy for the mind.

**HOCUS-POCUS**, *subs.* (old : now recognised). — I. A juggler's phrase. Hence a juggler's (or impostor's) stock in trade. Also HOCUS-TRADE.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*. 'Vanity of Vanities.' A HOCUS - POCUS, juggling Knight.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, ii., 156. 'The Rump Ululant.' Religion we made free of HOCUS TRADE.

1646. RANDOLPH, *Jealous Lovers*, If I do not think women were got with riddling, whip me ! HOCAS POCAS, here you shall have me, and there you shall have me.

1654. GAYTON, *Test. Notes Don. Quix.*, 46. This old fellow had not the HOCAS POCAS of Astrology.

1675. WYCHERLEY, *Country Wife*, iii., 2. That burlesque is a HOCUS-POCUS trick they have got.

d. 1680. BUTLER, *Remains* (1759), ii., 122. With a little heaving and straining, would turn it into Latin, as Mille HOCOPKIANA, and a thousand such.

1689. MARVELL, *Historical Poem*, line 90. With HOCUS POCUS . . . They gain on tender consciences at night.

c. 1755. ADEY, *Candle in the Dark*, p. 29. At the playing of every trick he used to say, HOCUS POCUS, tontus, talontus, vade celeriter jubeo.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.



1824-28. LANDOR, *Imaginary Conversations* [2nd Ed., ii., 275]. *Torke*. What think you, for instance, of HOCUS! POCUS! *Johnson*. Sir, those are exclamations of conjurors, as they call themselves.

1883. *Daily Telegraph*, 26 Mar., p. 5, c. 3. The lock of hair, the dragon's blood, and the stolen flour were only the HOCUS-POCUS of her sham witchcraft like the transfixed waxen puppets of the sorcerers of the past.

2. (old).—A trickster; a juggler; an impostor.

1625. JONSON, *Staple of News*, ii. That was the old way, gossip, when Iniquity came in [on the stage] like HOKOS POKOS, in a juggler's jerkin, with false skirts, like the knave of clubs.

1634. HOCUS POCUS JUNIOR, *The Anatomie of Leger de main*. [Title].

1656. BLOUNT, *Glossographia*, s.v. HOCUS POCUS, a juggler, one that shows tricks by sleight of hand.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOCUS-POCUS, a juggler that shews Tricks by Slight of Hand.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

3. (old).—A cheat; an impostor; a juggler's trick.

1713. BENTLEY, *Free Thinking*, 12. Our author is playing HOCUS-POCUS in the very similitude he takes from that juggler.

4. (old).—See HOCUS, sense 2.

*Adj.* (old).—Cheating; fraudulent.

1715. ADDISON, *The Drummer*. If thou hast any HOCUS-POCUS tricks to play, why can'st not do them here?

1725-29. MASON, *Horace*, iv., 8. Such HOCUS-POCUS tricks, I own, Belong to Gallic bards alone.

1759. MACKLIN, *Love à la Mode*, ii., 1. The law is a sort of HOCUS-POCUS science that smiles in yer face while it picks your pocket.

*Verb* (old).—To cheat; to trick.

**HOD** (or **BROTHER HOD**), *subs.* (common).—A bricklayer's labourer.

1785. GROSE, *Vulgar Tongue*, s.v.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v.

**HOD OF MORTAR**, *subs. phr.* (rhyming).—A pot of porter.

**HODDY-DODDY** (or **HODDIE-DODDIE**), *subs.* (old).—A short thick-set man or woman. The full expression is 'Hoddy Doddy, all arse and no body.'—GROSE. For synonyms, see FORTY-GUTS. Also a fool.

c. 1534. UDALL, *Roister Doister*, i., I. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iii., 58). Sometimes I hang on Hankyn HODDY-DODDY's sleeve.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, iv., 8. Well, good wife bawd, Cob's wife, and you, That make your husband such a HODDY-DODDY.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, ii. [1662], 55. Every noddie . . . will . . . cry HODDY-DODDY Here's a Parliament all arse and no body.

1723. SWIFT, *Mary the Cookmaid's Letter* (CHALMERS, *Eng. Poets*, 1810, xi., 433). My master is a personable man, and not a spindle-shanked HODDY-DODDY.

**HODDY - PEAK** (or **-PEKE**), *subs.* (old).—A fool; a cuckold.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Poems*, 'Duke of Albany.' Gyue it up, And cry creke Lyke an Huddy PEKE.

1551. *Gammer Gurton*, O. P., ii., 45. Art here again, thou HODDYPEKE?

1554. CHRISTOPHERSON, *Exh. ag. Rebel*. They counte peace to be cause of ydelnes, and that it maketh men HODIPEKES and cowardes.

d. 1555. LATIMER, *Sermons*, fol. 44, b. What, ye brainsicke fooles, ye HODDYPEAKES, ye doddy poules.

1560. *Nice Wanton* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ii., 164). Yea, marry, I warrant you, master HODDY-PEAK.

1589. NASHE, *Anatomic of Absurdities*, b. Who, under her husband's that HODDY-PEKE'S nose, Must have all the destilling dew of his delicate rose.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Trav.*, 106 [Chiswick Press, 1891.] No other apte meanes had this poore shee captived Cicely to worke her HODDY PEAKE husband a proportionable plague to his jealousy.

**HODGE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A farm labourer; a rustic.

1589. GREENE, *Menaphon*, p. 58 [ed. Arber, 1880]. These Arcadians are giuen to take the benefit of euerie HODGE.

1875. A. MARVEL, *Satire. HODGE'S Vision from the Monument*. [Title.]

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HODGE, a Country Clown, also Roger.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1791. SMART, *Fables*, xiii., 27. Is that the care (quoth HODGE)? O rare!

1880. RICHARD JEFFERIES, *HODGE and his Masters*. [Title.]

1884. MRS. CRAIK, in *Eng. Ill. Mag.*, Mar., p. 356. Quite different from the bovine, agricultural HODGE of the midland counties.

1893. *National Observer*, 25 Feb., ix., 358. 'Pay me an infinitesimal sum,' Lord Winchelsea says (in effect) to HODGE, 'and you shall have a weekly newspaper for nothing.'

**HODGE-PODGE** (or **HOTCH-POTCH**), *subs.* (old: now recognised).—A mixture; a medley. *Sp., com-mistrajo*. See **HOTCH-POTCH**.

1553-99. SPENSER, *State of Ireland*. They have made our English tongue a galimaufrey, or HODGEPODGE of all other peeches.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 199. Some Cillier-like Saint, . . . Had rak'd a HODG PODG for the Devil.

1726. VANBRUGH, *Journey to London*. They were all got into a sort of HODGE-PODGE argument for the good of the nation which I did not well understand.

d. 1764. LLOYD, *Poems* (774), 'A Tale.' Was ever such an HODGE-PODGE seen.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HODMAN**, (Oxford Univ.).—A scholar from Westminster School admitted to Christ Church College, Oxford.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. HODMAN.

**HODMANDOD**, *subs.* (old).—I. A snail in his shell—BACON. See **DODDY**.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, v., 4 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 525). Painted snails with houses on their backs, and horns as big as Dutch cows. . . . Can any woman be honest that lets such HODMANDODS crawl o'er her virgin breast and belly?

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1728. BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—A Hottentot.

1686. CAPTAIN COWLEY in *Harris Voyages*, i., 82. We walked, moreover, without the town to the villages inhabited by the HODMANDODS, to view their nasty bodies.

**HOE**. To **HOE** IN (American Univ.).—To work with vigour; TO SWOT (*q.v.*).

To **HOE** ONE'S OWN ROW, *verb. phr.* (American).—To do one's own work.

HARD ROW TO **HOE**. See **HARD ROW**.

**HOE-DOWN**, *subs.* (American).—A negro dance; a BREAKDOWN (*q.v.*).

**HOG**, *subs.* (old).—I. A shilling: also a sixpence: and (in America) a ten-cent piece. For synonyms, see **BLOW**. HALF-A-HOG = sixpence, or five-cent piece.

1688. SHADWELL, *Squire of Alsatia*, s.v. Hog, a shilling.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. Hog, You Darkman Budge, will you Fence your HOG at the next Boozing ken?

1714. *Memoirs of John Hall* (4th Ed.), p. 12, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. Half a Hog, Six-Pence.

1809-12. MISS EDGEWORTH, *Ennui*, ch. vi. 'It's only a tester or a HOG they want your honour to give 'em, to drink your honour's health,' said Paddy. 'A HOG to drink my health?' 'Ay, that is a thirteen, please your honour; all as one as an English shilling.'

1825. EGAN, *Life of an Actor*, ch. iv. You shall have . . . eighteen HOG a week, and a benefit which never fails.

1842. THACKERAY, *Cox's Diary in Comic Almanack*, p. 237. Do you think I'm a-going to kill my horses, and break my precious back, and bust my carriage, and carry you, and your kids, and your traps, for six hog?

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. i., p. 529. The slang phrases are constantly used by the street lads; thus a sixpence is a 'tanner'; a shilling a 'bob', or a HOG . . . The collections of coin dealers amply show, that the figure of a hog was anciently placed on a small silver coin.

1857. MRS. MATHEWS, *Tea Table Talk*, p. 207. The shopwoman satisfied Suett after her fashion, that his little lump of Suett had absorbed flour and lard (pastry) to the amount of what her queer customer would have termed a HOG.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulary*, s.v. Hog, a ten-cent piece.

2. (colloquial). — A foul-mouthed blackguard; a dirty feeder. Also, a common glutton.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*, s.v. *Ciro*, a HOGGE, a swine, a filthie fellowe.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 69. 'Arry's a HOG when he feeds.

3. (Cambridge Univ.: obsolete). — A student of St. John's. Also, JOHNIAN HOG. See CRACKLE, BRIDGE OF GRUNTS, and ISTHMUS OF SUEZ.

1690. *Diary of Abraham de la Pryme* (Surtees Society, No. 54), quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 6, S. xi., 328. For us Jonians are called abusively HOGGS.

1795. *Gent. Mag.*, lxxv., 22. The JOHNIAN HOGS were originally remarkable on account of the squalid figures and low habits of the *students*, and especially of the *sizars* of Saint John's College. [Another story of how name originated is given in detail in *Gent. Mag.* (1795), lxxv., 107.]

1889. WHIBLEY, *In Cap and Gown*, p. 28. An obsolete name for members of St. John's College, Cambridge.

4. (old Scots'). — A yearling sheep.

1796. BURNS, *Poems*. What will I do gin my HOGGIE die, my joy, my friend, my HOGGIE.

5. (American). — An inhabitant of Chicago. [That city being a notable pig-breeding and pork-packing centre.]

6. (old). — A Hampshireman.

1770. LORD HAILES, *Ancient Scottish Poems*, 'Dance of the Seven Deadly Sins.' Note on line 115. And thus his ill-bred raillery will be like that of Essex calves, HAMPSHIRE HOGS, Middlesex mongrels, Norfolk dumplings, Welsh goats, etc.

*Verb* (American). — I. To cheat; to humbug; TO GAMMON (*q.v.*).

1867. BROWNE (Artemus Ward). 'Among the Mormons, ii., 10. Go my son, and Hog the public.

2. (venery). — To copulate. For synonyms see GREENS and RIDE.

3. (stables). — To cut short; *e.g.*, to HOG a horse's mane.

A HOG IN ARMOUR, *subs. phr.* (old). — A lout in fine clothes. Also a JACK-IN-OFFICE; HOG-IN-TOGS = (in America) a well-dressed loafer. [HOG = HODGE (*q.v.*), a rustic.]

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. Hog . . . an awkward, or mean looking man or woman, finely dressed, is said to look like a HOG IN ARMOUR.



HOG AND HOMINY, *subs. phr.* (American).—Plain fare; COMMON DOINGS (*q.v.*). [Pork and maize are the two cheapest food stuffs in the U.S.A.]

TO GO THE WHOLE HOG.  
See WHOLE ANIMAL.

TO BRING ONE'S HOGS (or PIGS) TO A FINE MARKET, *verb. phr.* (old).—To do well; to make a good DEAL (*q.v.*). Also, in sarcasm, the opposite.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, s.v. HE HAS BROUGHT HIS HOGGS TO A FAIR MARKET, or he has Spun a fair Thread.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOG. . . . HE HAS BROUGHT HIS HOGS TO A FINE MARKET, a saying of one who has been remarkably successful in his affairs, and is spoken ironically to signify the contrary.

TO DRIVE ONE'S HOGS (or PIGS) TO MARKET, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To snore.

1738. SWIFT *Polite Conversations*, ii., 455. I'gad he fell asleep, and snored so loud that we thought he was DRIVING HIS HOGS TO MARKET.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOG. . . . TO DRIVE ONE'S HOGS, to snore, the noise made by some persons in snoring being not much unlike the notes of that animal.

HOG-AGE, *subs.* (American).—The period between boyhood and manhood. Cf., HOBLEDEHOY.

HOGAN-MOGAN, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1892. AITKEN, *Satires of Andrew Marvell*, p. 128. The States General of the United provinces were officially addressed as High and Mighty Lords, or in Dutch, Hoogmogenden; hence English satirists called them HOGANS-MOGANS, and applied the phrase to Dutchmen in general. Cf., *Hoganmoganiades, or the Dutch Hudibras* (1694), and 'A New Song on the HOGAN-MOGANS' in 'A Collection of the Newest Poems . . . against Popery, etc.' (1680).

HOG-GRUBBER, *subs.* (old).—A miser; a niggard; a MEAN CUSS (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, s.v. A HOG-GRUBBER, . . . a narrow-soul'd sneaking Fellow.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOG GRUBBER, a mean stingy fellow.

HOGMAGUNDY (or HOUGHMAGANDIE), *subs.* (Scots).—Copulation. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

1786. BURNS, *The Holy Fair* [last stanza]. There's some are fou o' love divine, There's some are fou o' brandy; An' mony jobs that day begin, May end in HOUGHMAGANDIE Some ither day.

HOGMENAY, *subs.* (old Scots').—1. New Year's Eve, which is a national festival. [The origin has been the subject of much discussion.]

1776. BRAND, *Popular Antiquities*, p. 102. Sirs, do you what HAGMANE signifies? It is the devil be in the house.

1793. *The Bee*, 10 July, p. 17. The night preceding that festival HOGGMONAY.

1879. JAMES NAPIER, *Folk Lore*, p. 154. After the Reformation, the Scotch transferred HAGMANAY [from Xmas Eve] to the last day of December, as a preparation day for the New Year.

2. Hence a wanton. [The feast is celebrated with much drink and not a little license.]

HOGO, *subs.* (old).—A flavour; an aroma; a relish. Hence, in irony, and by corruption, a stink. Cf., FOGO. [From Fr., *haut goût*.] See HIGH, sense 2.

1569. ERASMUS, *Trans. Praise of Folly*, p. 13 (1709). Pleasure that HAUGOUST of Folly.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*. 'A Vindication of the Rump.' Oh! what a Hogo was there.

1645. HOWELL, *Letters*, V., xxxviii., p. 42. He can marinat fish, make gellies, and is excellent for a *pickant* sawce, and the HAUGOU.

1653. WALTON, *Compleat Angler*, I., ch. vii. To give the sawce a HOGOR let the dish (into which you let the Pike fall) be rubed with it [garlick].

1654. *Choyce Drollery*, p. 34. And why not say a word or two Of she that's just? witness all who Have ever been at thy HO-GO.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, iii., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 451). We'll work ourselves into such a sauce as you can never surfeit on, and yet no HOGOUGH.

1667. COWLEY, *Government of Oliver Cromwell*, Prose Works (Pickering, 1826), 94. Cromwell . . . found out the true HOGO of this pleasure, and rejoiced in the extravagance of his ways.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, ii., 1. She has . . . no more teeth left than such as give a HAUT GOUT to her breath.

1686. *Twelve Ingenious Characters*. A bad husband is an inconsiderate piece of sottish extravagance; for though he consist of several ill ingredients, yet still good fellowship is the *causa sine qua non*, and gives him the HO-GO.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOGO.

1705-7. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, Vol. I., Pt. vi., p. 4. Most stinking meat, Toss'd up with leeks into *Raggoo*, To overcome the unsav'ry HOGO.

1718. DURFEY, *Pills*, iii., 177. 'Let's drink and be merry.' Your most Beautiful Bit, that hath all Eyes upon her, That her Honesty sells for a HOGO of Honour.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOGO . . . it has a confounded HOGO, it stinks confoundedly.

**HOGSHEAD.** TO COUCH A HOGS-HEAD, *verb. phr.* (Old Cant).—See quot. For synonyms, see BALMY.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat* (1814), p. 66. TO COUCH A HOGSHEAD: to ly downe and slepe. *Ibid.*, I COUCHED A HOGSHEAD in a skypper this darkemans.

**HOG-SHEARING**, *subs.* (old).—Much ado about nothing; great cry and little woul.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOG. Labour in vain, which the Latines express by Goats-wool, as the English by the SHEARING OF HOGGS.

**HOGS-NORTON.** TO HAVE BEEN BORN AT HOGS-NORTON, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be ill-mannered.

d. 1666. HOWELL, *Eng. Proverbs*, p. 16. I think thou wast BORN AT HOGGS-NORTON, where piggs play upon the organs.

1676. MARVEL, *Mr. Smirke* [Grosart], iv., p. 89. A pair of organs of cats which he had done well to have made the pigs at Hogs-Norton play on.

**HOGSTYE OF VENUS**, *subs. phr.* (venery).—See quot. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1598. FLORIO, *Worlde of Wordes*, s.v. *Porcile di venere*, the HOG-STYE OF VENUS, a womans privities or geare.

**HOG-WASH**, *subs.* (common).—1. Bad liquor; specifically, ROT-GUT (*q.v.*).

2. (journalists'). — Worthless newspapermatter; SLUSH, SWASH, and FLUB-DUB (*q.v.*).

**HOI POLLOI**, *subs. phr.* (university). The candidates for ordinary degrees. [From the Greek.] Cf., GULF.

**HOIST**, *subs.* (old).—A shop-lifter; also a confederate hoisting or helping a thief to reach an open window. THE HOIST = shop-lifting. TO GO UPON THE HOIST = to enter a house by an open window.

1796. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue* (3rd Ed.), s.v. HOIST. This is done by the assistance of a confederate called THE HOIST, who leans his head against the wall, making his back a kind of step or ascent.—GROSE.

1819. VAUX, *Cant. Dict.* HOIST, the game of shop-lifting is called THE HOIST; a person expert at this practice is said to be a good hoist.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, p. 38. We were principally engaged UPON THE HOYS and coreing.

*Verb* (thieves').—1. To practise shop-lifting; to rob by means of THE HOIST (*q.v.*).

2. (American).—To run away; to decamp. For synonyms, see AMPUTATE and SKEDADDLE.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 174. Jist HIST, and take yourself off.

3. (common).—To drink. *E.g.*, Will you HOIST? = will you have a liquor?; HOISTING = drinking; ON THE HOIST = on the drunk. Also a HOIST IN.

TO GIVE A HOIST, *verb. phr.* (tailors').—To do a bad turn.

TO HAVE (OR DO) A HOIST IN. *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

HOISTER, *subs.* (old).—1. A shop-lifter; a HOIST (*q.v.*, sense 1). Also a pickpocket.

1847-50. J. H. JESSE, *London*, i. 30. He that could take out a counter without any noise was allowed to be a public HOYSTER. N.B.—That a hoyster is a pickpocket.

2. (common).—A sot. For synonyms, see LUSHINGTON.

HOISTING (OR HOIST-LAY), *subs.* (thieves').—1. Shop-lifting. THE HOIST (*q.v.*). Also shaking a man head downwards, so that his money rolls out of his pockets.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1821. D. HAGGART, *Life*, glossary, p. 172. HOYS, shop-lifting.

1868. *Temple Bar*, xxiv., 534. She can secrete articles about her dress when in a shop looking at things, and that's one way of HOISTING.

2. (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOISTING, a ludicrous ceremony, formerly performed on every soldier, the first time he appeared in the field, after being married: as soon as the regiment, or company, had grounded their arms, to rest awhile; three or four men of the same company, to which the bridegroom belonged, seized upon him, and putting a couple of bayonets out of the two corners of his hat, to represent horns, it was placed on his head, the back part foremost, he was then hoisted on the shoulders of two strong fellows, and carried round the arms, a drum and fife beating and playing, the pioneers call, named *Round-heads and Cuckolds*, but on this occasion stiled the *Cuckold's March*: in passing the colours, he was to take off his hat . . . This in some regiments was practised by the officers on their brethren.

HOIT (OR HOYT), *verb.* (old).—To be noisily or riotously inclined.

1611. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Knight of the Burning Pestle*, iv., 1. He sings, and HOVTS, and revels among his drunken companions.

HOITY-TOITY. See HIGHTY-TIGHTY.

HOKEY-POKEY, *subs.* (common).—1. A cheat; a swindle; nonsense. [From HOCUS POCUS.]

2. (common).—A cheap ice-cream sold in the streets.

HOLBORN HILL. TO RIDE BACKWARDS UP HOLBORN HILL, *verb. phr.* (old colloquial).—To go to the gallows. [The way was thence to Tyburn, criminals riding backwards.—GROSE.]

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii., 1. *Urs.* Up the heavy HILL—*Kuock.* Of HOLBOURN, Ursula, mean'st thou so? for what, for what, pretty Urse? *Urs.* For cutting halfpenny purses, or stealing little penny dogs out o' the Fair.

1659. *Harry White's Humour* (Nares). Item, he loves to ride when he is weary, yet at certaine times he holds it ominous to ride up HOLBORNE.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, ii., 7. Sirrah, you'll be hanged; I shall live to see you GO UP HOLBORN HILL.



**HOLD, verb.** (old).—1. To bet; to wager. See DO YOU HOLD?

1534. UDALL, *Roister Doister*, i., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iii., 7). I HOLD a groat ye will drink anon of this gear.

1551. W. STILL, *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, iii., 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iii., 216, and *passim*). I HOLD thee a groat I shall patch thy coat.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Provoked Wife*, ii., 1. I'll HOLD you a guinea you don't make her tell it you.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 54. I'll HOLD ye five Guineas to four.

2. (venery) (or HOLD IT).—To be impregnated; to be got with child. [In certain parts of Scotland, it is said, a farm servant stating that she "disna HAUD" commands double wages.]

TO HOLD ON TO, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To apply oneself; to be persistent: generally, TO HOLD ON LIKE GRIM DEATH.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 71. He recovered, and wisely HELD ON to for the future.

HOLD UP, *verb. phr.* (American and Australian).—1. To rob on the highway; TO BAIL or STICK UP (*q.v.*). Also as *subs.* = a highwayman or ROAD-AGENT (*q.v.*).

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 8 Dec. One man HELD UP six stage passengers in Arizona the other day and robbed them of \$2,000. Each was armed, but it is customary to submit out there, and so up went their hands.

1888. *Detroit Free Press*, 13 Oct. Mounted on a white horse, he started on a land-prospecting tour and ran against a party of HOLD-UPS.

1892. *Lippincott*, Oct., p. 495. Would HOLD the train UP until I had finished.

2. (thieves').—To arrest. For synonyms, see NAB.

TO HOLD THE STAGE, *verb. phr.* (theatrical).—To have the chief place on the boards and the eye of an audience. Fr., *avoir les planches*.

TO HOLD A CANDLE TO (THE DEVIL, etc.), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—See DEVIL, and add the following quot.

1888. READE and BOUCICAULT, *Foul Play*, p. 65. But you see, sir, he has got the ear of the merchant ashore; and so I am obliged to HOLD A CANDLE TO THE DEVIL.

TO HOLD A CANDLE TO, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To vie with; to be comparable to; also to assist in or condone.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 79. They had killed poor Ransome; and was I to HOLD THE CANDLE TO another murder?

TO HOLD (or HANG) ON BY THE EYELIDS, EYELASHES or EYEBROWS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To pursue an object desperately; to insist upon a point; to carry on a forlorn hope. See also quot. and SPLASH BOARD.

1883. CLARK RUSSELL, *Sailor's Language*, p. 69. HOLDING ON WITH HIS EYELIDS. Said of a man aloft with nothing much to lay hold of.

TO HOLD IN HAND, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To amuse; to possess the attention or the mind; to have in one's pocket.

TO HOLD THE MARKET, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To buy stock and hold it to so large an extent that the price cannot decline.

DO YOU HOLD? *phr.* (streets).—Have you money to lend? Can you stand treat? Cf. *verb.*, sense 1.

HOLD YOUR HORSES, *phr.* (American).—Go easy; don't get excited: a general injunction to calm in act and speech.

HOLD YOUR JAW, *phr.* (colloquial).—Hold your tongue; STOW YOUR GAB (*q.v.*).

HOLD HARD! (OR ON)! *inj.* (colloquial).—Wait a moment! don't be in a hurry!

1761. COLMAN, *Jealous Wife*, V., in *Wks.* (1777), I., 130. HOLD HARD! HOLD HARD! you are all on a wrong scent.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 280. 'HOLD HARD!' said the conductor; 'I'm blowed if we ha'n't forgot the gen'l'm'n as vas to be set down at Doory-lane.'

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. iv., p. 38 (1873). I told Meaburn to HOLD ON, and we'd get a rise out of Punch.

HOLD-STITCH.—See STITCH.

HOLD-WATER.—See WATER.

HOLD-OUT, *subs.* (gambling).—An old-fashioned apparatus, in poker, for 'holding out' desirable cards.

HOLE (venery).—1. The female *pu-dendum*. Also, HOLE OF CONTENT, and HOLE (OR QUEEN) OF HOLES. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE. TO GIVE A HOLE TO HIDE IT IN = TO GRANT THE FAVOUR (*q.v.*). [Hence, by a play upon words, HOLY OF HOLIES.]

1595. SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, ii., 4. This drivelling love is like a great natural, that runs lolling up and down to hide his BAUBLE (*q.v.*) in a HOLE.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, s.v. *Carnafan*, the brat-getting place, or HOLE OF CONTENT.

1620. PERCY, *Folio MS.*, p. 197. . . . He light in a HOLE ere he was aware!

1647-80. ROCHESTER, *Poems*. Thou mighty princess, lovely QUEEN OF HOLES.

d. 1649. DRUMMOND, *Posthumous Poems*, 'The Statue of Alcides.' Fair nymph, in ancient days, your HOLES, by far, Werenot so hugely vast as now they are.

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., iv., 72. It has a head much like a Mole's, And yet it loves to creep in HOLES: The fairest She that e'er took Life, For love of this became a Wife.

2. (old).—A cell; *cf.* HELL, sense I.

1540. LINDSAY, *Thrie Estaitis*, line 1016. Wee have gart bind him with ane poill, And send him to the theifis HOILL.

1607. *Miseries of Enforced Marriage*, iii., I. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 514). If you shall think . . . it shall accord with the state of gentry to submit myself from the feather-bed in the master's side, or the flock-bed in the knight's ward, to the straw-bed in the HOLE.

1607. WENTWORTH SMITH, *The Puritan*, iii. But if e'er we clutch him again the Counter shall charm him. *Rav.* The HOLE shall rot him.

1657. *Walks of Hogsdon*. Next from the stocks, the HOLE, and little-ease.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, iv., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 482). Make his mitty-mus to the HOLE at Newgate.

3. (old).—A private printing office where unlicensed books were made; a COCK-ROBIN SHOP (*q.v.*).—MOXON, 1683.

4. (colloquial).—A difficulty; a fix; on the turf, TO BE IN A HOLE = to lose (a bet) or be defeated (of horses).

1760-61. SMOLLETT, *Sir L. Greaves*, ch. xvi. I should be in a deadly HOLE myself if all my customers should take it into their heads to drink nothing but water-guel.

1868. OUIDA, *Under Two Flags*, ch. i. 'I am in a hole—no end of a HOLE.'

5. (common).—A place of abode; specifically, a mean habitation; a dirty lodging. For synonyms, see DIGGINGS.

6. (common).—The *rectum*: short for ARSE-HOLE. *E.g.*, SUCK HIS HOLE = a derisive retort upon an affirmative answer to the

question, 'Do you know So-and-So?' For synonyms, *see* MONOCULAR EYEGLASS.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*, 'The Miller's Tale.' And at the window she put out hir HOLE.

1540. LINDSAY, *Thrie Estaitis*, line 2174. Lift vp hir clais: Kis hir HOULL with your hart.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, v., 3. A pox o' your manners, kiss my HOLE here, and smell.

1649. DRUMMOND, *Madrigals and Epigrams*, 'A Jest' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, x., 667). She turned, and turning up her hole beneath, Said, 'Sir, kiss here.'

d. 1732. GAY, *Tales* 'In Imitation of Chaucer's Style' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, x., 504). Thou didst forget to guard thy postern, There is an HOLE which hath not crossed been.

*Verb* (venery).—To effect intromission; to PUT IN (*q.v.*). Hence, HOLED, *adj.* = IN (*q.v.*).

A HOLE IN ONE'S COAT, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A flaw in one's fame; a weak spot in one's character. TO PICK A HOLE IN ONE'S COAT = to find a cause for censure.

1789. BURNS, *Verses on Capt. Grose*. If there's a HOLE IN A' YOUR COATS, I rede you tent it.

TO MAKE (OR BURN) A HOLE IN ONE'S POCKET, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—Said of money recklessly spent.

TO MAKE A HOLE IN ANYTHING, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To use up largely.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, iii., 5 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 456). Do it then, and make a HOLE in this angel.

TO MAKE A HOLE IN THE WATER, *verb. phr.*—(common).—To commit suicide by drowning.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 76. I should just MAKE A HOLE IN THE WATER, if 'tworn't for the wife and the kids.

TO MAKE A HOLE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To break; to spoil; to upset; to interrupt. Thus TO MAKE A HOLE IN ONE'S MANNERS = to be rude; to MAKE A HOLE IN ONE'S REPUTATION = to betray, to seduce; to MAKE A HOLE IN THE SILENCE = to make a noise, to RAISE CAIN (*q.v.*).

TOO DRUNK TO SEE A HOLE IN A LADDER, *phr.* (common).—Excessively intoxicated. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

HOLE-AND-CORNER, *adj.* (colloquial).—Secret; underhand; out of the way: *e.g.*, HOLE-AND-CORNER WORK = shady business. Also (venery) = copulation. [*Cf.*, HOLE, *subs.* sense 1.]

HOLER (also HOLEMONGER), *subs.* (colloquial).—A whoremaster (*cf.*, HOLE, *subs.*, sense 1). Also (old), a harlot; a light woman (*cf.*, HOLE, *verb.*). Hence, HOLING = whoring.

HOLIDAY, *adj.* (old).—Unskilled; indifferent; careless.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOLIDAY, A HOLIDAY BOWLER, a bad bowler.

BLIND MAN'S HOLIDAY. *See ante.*

TO HAVE A HOLIDAY AT PECKHAM, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To go dinnerless. ALL HOLIDAY AT PECKHAM = no work and nothing to eat. [A play upon words.] *See* PECKISH.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*. ALL HOLIDAY AT PECKHAM . . . a saying signifying that it is all over with the business or person spoken of or alluded to.



1848. FORSTER, *Oliver Goldsmith*, bk. I., ch. vi., p. 55 (5th Ed.). 'Oh, that is ALL A HOLIDAY AT PECKHAM,' said an old friend very innocently one day.

TO TAKE A HOLIDAY, *verb. phr.* (common).—To be dismissed; to get the BAG (*q.v.*) or SACK (*q.v.*).

GONE FOR A HOLIDAY, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Said of a flaw, lapse, or imperfection of any kind (as dropped stitches, lost buttons, slurred painting, and so forth). *See* also quotes.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOLIDAY . . . a holiday is any part of a ship's bottom, left uncovered in painting it.

1883. CLARK RUSSELL, *Sailors' Language*, p. 69, s.v. HOLIDAYS. Places left untarred on shrouds, backstays, etc., during the operation of tarring them.

HOLLER, *verb.* (American).—To cry enough; to give in; to CAVE IN (*q.v.*).

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 89. The truth must come, he warped me nice, So jist to save his time I HOLERED.

HOLLIS, *subs.* (Winchester College).—A small pebble. [Said to be derived from a boy.—*Notions.*]

HOLLOW, *adj.* (colloquial).—Complete; certain; decided. As *adv.* completely; utterly. *E.g.*, to beat or lick HOLLOW. *See* BEAT and CREATION.

1759. TOWNLEY, *High Life Below Stairs*, i., 2. Crab was beat HOLLOW.

1761. COLMAN, *Jealous Wife*, V., in *Wks.* (1777), i., 134. So, my lord, you and I are both distanced: a HOLLOW thing, damme.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HOLLOW. It was quite a HOLLOW thing, *i.e.*, a certainty, or decided business.

1814. EDGORTH, *Patronage*, ch. iii. Squire Burton won the match HOLLOW.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Bloudie Jack.' His lines to Apollo Beat all the rest HOLLOW And gained him the Newdegate Prize.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. lxiv., p. 529. I have therefore taken a 'ouse in that locality, which, in the opinion of my friends, is a HOLLOW bargain (taxes ridiculous, and use of fixtures included in the rent).

1871. *Durham County Advertiser*, 10 Nov. 'It licks me HOLLOW, sir, as I may say,' put in the silent member.

1892. *Punch*, 9 July, p. 3. Booby-traps were beaten HOLLOW.

HOLLOWAY, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

HOLLOWAY, MIDDLESEX (common).—The lower bowel; the ARSE-GUT (*q.v.*).

HOLT, *verb.* (American).—To take; to take hold of.

HOLUS-BOLUS, *subs.* (nautical).—The head. Also the neck.

*Adv.* (colloquial). — Helter skelter; altogether; first come, first served.

1868. WILKIE COLLINS, *The Moonstone*, 1st Period, ch. xv. And, making a sudden snatch at the heap of silver, put it back, HOLUS-BOLUS, in her pocket.

HOLY. MORE HOLY THAN RIGHTEOUS, *adv. phr.* (common).—Said of a person in rags, or of a tattered garment.

HOLY-BOYS, *subs.* (military).—The NINTH FOOT. [From a trick of selling bibles for drink in the Peninsula.] Also, FIGHTING NINTH.

1886. *Tinsley's Magazine*, Apr., 322. The 9th having bartered their Bibles in Spain for wine, and having there gained a reputation for sacking monasteries, were long known as the HOLY BOYS.

**HOLY-FATHER**, *subs.* (Irish).—*See* quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. **HOLY FATHER**, A butcher's boy of St. Patrick's Market, Dublin, or other Irish blackguard; among whom the exclamation, or oath, by the Holy Father (meaning the Pope), is common.

**HOLY IRON**. *See* **HOLY POKER**.

**HOLY JOE**, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A pious person, whether hypocritical or sincere. Also (nautical), a parson.

**HOLYJUMPING MOTHER OF MOSES**. *See* **MOSES**.

**HOLY-LAMB**, *subs.* (old).—A thorough-paced villain.—GROSE.

**HOLY-LAND** (or **GROUND**), *subs.* (old).—I. St. Giles's; **PALESTINE** (*q.v.*).

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib's Memorial to Congress*, p. 7. For we are the boys of the **HOLY GROUND**, And we'll dance upon nothing and turn us round.

1821. *The Fancy*, i., p. 250. The **HOLY-LAND**, as St. Giles's has been termed, in compliment to the superior purity of its Irish population.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, ch. ii. At Mammy O'Shaughnessy's in the back Settlements of the **HOLY LAND**.

1823. W. T. MONCRIEFF, *Tom and Jerry*, ii., 5. Let's have a dive among the cadgers in the back slums, in the **HOLY LAND**.

1843. *Punch's Almanack*, 1 Sept. St. Giles. The Marquis of Waterford makes a pilgrimage to his shrine in the **HOLY LAND**.

1859. SALA, *Twice Round the Clock*, one a.m., par. 28. Unfaithful topographers may have told you that the **HOLY LAND** being swept away and Buckeridge Street being pulled down, St. Giles's exists no more.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 3 Apr. p. 215, col. 1. It would be hard to say whether the Irishmen of the **HOLY LAND** or the Hebrew scum of Petticoat Lane showed the finest specimens of 'looped and windowed raggedness.'

2. (common).—Generic for any neighbourhood affected by Jews; specifically, Bayswater, and Brighton. *Cf.*, **NEW JERUSALEM**, and **HOLY OF HOLIES**.

**HOLY MOSES**. *See* **MOSES**.

**HOLY OF HOLIES**, *subs. phr.* (common).—1. The Grand Hotel at Brighton. [Which is largely tenanted by Jews: *cf.*, **HOLY LAND** (sense 2), and **NEW JERUSALEM**.]

2. (colloquial).—A private room; a **SANCTUM** (*q.v.*).

1891. N. GOULD, *Double Event*, p. 215. Fletcher did not venture into that **HOLY OF HOLIES**.

1893. *Westminster Gaz.*, 31 Jan., p. 3, c. 2. The Cabinet Council is the **HOLY OF HOLIES** of the British Constitution, and as Mr. Bagehot long ago regretted, no description of it at once graphic and authentic has ever been given.

3. (venery).—*See* **HOLE**, sense 1, and for synonyms, **MONOSYLLABLE**.

**HOLY POKER** (or **IRON**), *subs. phr.* (university).—The mace carried by an esquire bedel (of Law, Physic, or Divinity) as a badge of authority. [The term, which is applied to the bedels themselves, is very often used as an oath.]

1840. *Comic Almanack*, 'Tom the Devil,' p. 214. A hotel's the place for me! I've thried em all, from the Club-house at Kilkinny, to the Clarendon, and, by the **HOLY POKER**, never wish myself worse luck than such cantonnments!

1870. *London Figaro*, 8 Oct., p. 2, col. 2. The bedels of a University are very important persons, although derisive undergraduates familiarly term them **HOLY POKERS**.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 169. I swear upon the **HOLY IRON** I had neither art nor part.

2. (venery).—The *penis* (by a play upon words). *Cf.*, **HOLE**, sense 1, **HOLY OF HOLIES**, sense

3, and POKE. For synonyms, see CREAMSTICK and PRICK.

**HOLY - WATER SPRINKLER**, *subs. phr.* (old).—A mediæval weapon of offence; a MORNING STAR (*q.v.*).

**HOME**, *subs.* (colonial).—England.

1893. *Gentlemen's Mag.*, Jan., p. 74. And then I learnt that by HOME he meant England, which, moreover, is referred to as 'home' by dusky myriads, who have never seen her cliffs rise above the waves.

TO GET HOME, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—1. To achieve an object; to succeed perfectly; and (athletic) to reach the winning post.

1891. *Sportsman*, 26 Mar. A close struggle for the Palace Selling Plate ended in favour of Rosefield, who just GOT HOME a head in front of Mordure.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 23 Jan., 3, 2. It is delightful to watch Mr. Charles Hawtrey telling lie after lie to his unbelieving wife, and joyfully, in misplaced confidence, saying to himself, 'I've GOT HOME.'

2. (pugilists').—To get in (a blow) with precision and effect; TO LAND (*q.v.*). Also (old) to give a mortal wound.

1559. ELVOT, *Dictionary*, 3rd. ed. *Aere meo me lacessis*, thou gevest me scoffe for scoffe, or as we saie, thou PAIEST ME HOME.

1631. CHETTLE, *Hoffman. Sax.* Not any, Austria; neither toucht I thee. *Aust.* Somebody TOUCHT ME HOME; vaine world farewell, Dying I fall on my dead Lucibell.

1698. FARQUHAR, *Love and a Bottle*, iv., 3. But hark ye, George; don't push too HOME; have a care of whipping through the guts.

1706. FARQUHAR, *Recruiting Officer*, ii., 1. That's HOME.

1888. *Sporting Life*, 10 Dec. In the next round GOT HOME several times without a return.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 19 June, p. 395, c. 3. Mac GOT HOME a terrific cross-counter with the left on Bob's left eye, which seemed to split the flesh open both above and below.

3. (turf).—To recover a loss; neither to win nor lose; to come out quits. Also, TO BRING ONESELF HOME.

4. (venery).—To get with child. Also, to compel the sexual spasm.

TO MAKE ONESELF AT HOME, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To take one's ease; to be familiar to the point of ill-breeding.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 10. As AT HOME as a cat in a cream-shop.

TO COME HOME TO, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To reach the conscience; to touch deeply.

TO GO (SEND, or CARRY) HOME (or TO ONE'S LAST HOME), *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To die; to kill; to bury. [The Chinese say 'to go home horizontally.' See ALOFT.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes*. *Mandar 'al palegro*, to SEND TO ONES LAST HOME.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HOME. GONE HOME, dead.

**HOME-BIRD**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A henpecked husband. Also, a milksop. Fr., *chauffe-la-couche* (= warming-pan).

**HOME FOR LOST DOGS**, *subs. phr.* (medical).—A large and well known medical school in London. [From the fact that the majority of its inmates have strayed there from the various hospital schools, as a last resource toward taking a degree.]



**HOME-RULE**, *subs.* (common). — Irish whiskey. For synonyms, see DRINKS and OLD MAN'S MILK.

**HOME-SWEET-HOME**, *subs.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

**HOMO**, *subs.* (old). — A man: generally OME (q.v.). [From the Latin.] For synonyms, see COVE.

**HOMONEY**, *subs.* (old). — A woman. For synonyms, see PETTICOAT. Also, a wife. For synonyms, see DUTCH and Cf. HOMO.

1754. *Discoveries of John Poulter*, p. 43. My HOMONEY is in quod, my wife is in gaol.

**HOMO-OPATHISE**, *verb.* (American). — To get bills (i.e., petitions) through Legislature, Congress, or City Council, by means of bills (i.e., bank-bills).

**HONE**, *subs.* (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 204. So I may no more pogue the HONE of a Woman.

**HONEST**, *adj.* (old). — I. Chaste.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, ii., 1. Why't cannot be, where there is such resort, O wanton gallants, and young revellers, That any woman should be HONEST long.

1599. HENRY PORTER, *Two Angry Women of Abingdon* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 389). Is my fellow Dick in the dark with my mistress? I pray God they be HONEST, for there may be much knavery in the dark.

1600. *Look About You*, Sc. 23 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 476). What, lecher? No, she is an HONEST woman. Her husband is well known.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, iii., 3. I do not think but Desdemona's HONEST.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, v., 3. De HONEST woman's life is a dull scurvy life, indeed.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, iii., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 454). There's none but HONEST women.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, v., 4 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 525). Crooked, dirty-souled vermin, predestined for cuckolds, painted snails with houses on their backs, and horns as big as Dutch cows . . . Can any woman be HONEST that lets such hodmandods crawl o'er her virgin breast and belly?

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, ii., 1. A man . . . may bring his bashful wench, and not have her put out of countenance by the impudent HONEST women of the town.

1686-7. AUBREY, *Gentilisme* (1881), p. 163. The townie is full of wanton wenches, and . . . (they say) scarce three HONEST women in the Town.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, iii., 10. *Silvia*. I'm not such a fool neither, but I can keep myself HONEST.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, iii., 14. *Mrs. Fore*. Do you think any woman HONEST? *Scan*. Yes, several very honest; they'll cheat a little at cards sometimes; but that's nothing. *Mrs. Fore*. Pshaw! but virtuous, I mean.

2. (common). — Not positively illegal: as HONEST PENNY or SHILLING = money earned by means immoral (as by prostitution) but within the law. Also, TO TURN AN HONEST PENNY = to make a profitable deal.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, iii., 1. You must call usury and extortion God's blessing, or the HONEST TURNING OF THE PENNY.

1836. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*, ch. xxi. There was a chance of TURNING AN HONEST PENNY in hiring them out for the donkey-race.

TO MAKE AN HONEST WOMAN, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To marry a mistress.

1629. EARLE, *Microcosmographie* (5th ed.). 'A Serving Man.' The best work he does is his marrying, for he MAKES AN HONEST WOMAN, and if he follows in it his master's direction, it is commonly the best service he does him.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, v., 6. *Daph*. Why she was my wench. *Gripe*. I'll MAKE HER HONEST then.

1750. FIELDING, *Tom Jones*, bk. XV., ch. viii. Mr. Nightingale, and his love, stepped into a hackney-coach, which conveyed him to Doctors' Commons, where Miss Nancy was, in vulgar language, soon MADE AN HONEST WOMAN.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1825. SCOTT, *St. Ronan's Well*, ch. xxv. My right honourable father nourished some thoughts of MAKING AN HONEST WOMAN of Marie de Martigny, and a legitimate elder brother of Francis.

1827. EGAN, *Anecdotes of the Turf*, p. 182. She had now only to play her cards well, she was sure of winning the game, also of becoming an HONEST WOMAN.

AS HONEST A MAN AS WHEN  
KINGS ARE OUT, *phr.* (old).—  
Knavish.

HONEST AS THE SKIN BETWEEN  
THE BROWS (or HORNS), *phr.*  
(old).—As honest as may be.

1551. W. STILL, *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, (O.P.), ii., 67. I am as true, I wold thou knew, AS SKIN BETWEEN THY BROWS.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man out of his Humour*, ii., 2. *Punt.* Is he magnanimous? *Gent.* AS THE SKIN BETWEEN YOUR BROWS, sir.

1600. SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado*, iii., 5. An old man, sir, and his wits are not so blunt, as, God help, I would desire they were, but in faith, HONEST, AS THE SKIN BETWEEN HIS BROWS.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, iv., 5. It shall be justified to thy husband's faish, now; thou shalt be as HONEST AS THE SKIN BETWEEN HIS HORNISH, la.

HONEST INJUN! *phr.* (American).  
—A pledge of sincerity; HONOUR  
BRIGHT (*q.v.*).

1834. CLEMENS [Mark Twain], *Huckleberry Finn*. She says 'HONEST INJUN, now hain't you been telling me a lot of lies?' 'HONEST INJUN' says I.

1892. *Detroit Free Press*, 12 Aug. I'll agree not to feel hard about it. HONEST INJUN?

HONEY, *subs.* (American).—I. A good fellow.

1883. *Missouri Republican*, 24 Feb. Dave is a HONEY.

2. (rhyming slang).—Money. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

3. (old colloquial).—A term of endearment.

4. (venery).—Thesemen. Also. WHITE HONEY (*q.v.*). Cf., HIVE.

*Verb* (American).—To cajole; to exchange endearments; to deceive by soft words or promises.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iii., 4. Stew'd in corruption; HONEYING and making love Over the nasty sty.

1602. MARSTON, *Antonio and Mellida*, A. 4. Can'st thou not HONEY me with fluent speech, And even adore my toplese villany?

1604. MARSTON and WEBSTER, *Malcontent*, O.P., iv., 66. O unpeerable! invention rare! Thou god of policy, it HONIES me.

1631. CHETTLÉ, *Hoffman. Clo.* A pretious villaine: a good villaine too. Well if he be no worse; that is doe worse, And HONEY me in my death-stinging thoughts, I will preferre him.

1888. *Tuskaloosa News*. It is of no use to HONEY; payments must be made at least once a year.

TO SELL HONEY FOR A HALF-PENNY, *verb. phr.* (old).—To rate at a vile price.

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse* [1842], p. 43. Thou that in thy dialogues SOLDST HUNNIE FOR A HALFE-PENIE, and the choysest writers extant for cues a peece.

HONEY-BLOBS, *subs.* (Scots').—Large, ripe, yellow gooseberries.

1746. WALPOLE, *Letters*, i., 144. As he returned to the Tower, he stopped the coach at Charing Cross to buy HONEY-BLOBS, as the Scotch call gooseberries.

HONEYCOMB, *subs.* (old).—A sweetheart; a general term of endearment.

1552. HULOET, *Abcedarium*, s.v. DARLYNGE, a wanton terme used in venerial speach, as be these : HONYCOMBE, pyggisnye, swetehert, true love.

**HONEY-FOGLE** (or **FUGLE**), *verb.* (American). — To cheat ; to swindle ; to humbug. For synonyms, see **GAMMON**.

1888. *Missouri Republican*, 20 Jan. Noonan's companion objected to this **HONEY-FUGLING** by knocking the demonstrative stranger down.

**HONEY - POT**, *subs.* (old). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see **MONOSYLLABLE**.

1719. *DURFEY, Pills*, etc., iii., 342. For when you have possession got, Of Venus' Mark, or HONY-POT.

**HONOUR BRIGHT** ! *intj.* (common). — Upon my honour.

1819. *MOORE, Tom Crib*, p. 36. At morning meet, and,—**HONOUR BRIGHT**,—Agree to share the blunt and tatters !

1843. *SELBY, Antony and Cleopatra Married. Cle.* Will you love me as dearly as ever? *Ant.* Dearer, dear Chloe, dearer ! *Cle.* **HONOUR**? *Ant.* **BRIGHT** and **SHINING**.

1869. *F. HALL*, Marginal reading to *LYNDSAY'S Satire of Three Estates* [E.E. Text Soc.], p. 382. She is more than a match for twenty-four a night, **HONOUR BRIGHT**.

1878. *HATTON, Cruel London*, bk. VIII., ch. ii. **HONOUR BRIGHT**, no kid, as we say in London.

1881. *W. BLACK, Beautiful Wretch*, ch. xix. 'I do not mean to marry Mr. Jacob, if that is what you mean.' 'No? **HONOUR BRIGHT**?' 'I shall not marry Mr. Jacob.'

1892. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 28 Sep., p. 29., c. 3. 'Come, come, Mr. Smith, you're drawing the long bow!' '**HONOUR BRIGHT**, I'm not.'

1892. *N. GOULD, Double Event*, p. 158. 'She did, **HONOUR BRIGHT**,' said Smirk.

**HOOD.** **TWO FACES UNDER ONE HOOD** (or **HAT**), *phr.* (old). — Double-dealing.

1690. *B. E., Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. **HOOD**.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1823. *BEE, Dict. Turf*, s.v. **HOOD**. May the man be d—d and never grow fat, Who carries **TWO FACES UNDER ONE HAT**.

To **PUT A BONE IN ONE'S HOOD**, *verb. phr.* (obsolete). — To cuckold.

1660. *Nice Wanton* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ii., 169). I could tell you who putteth **A BONE IN YOUR HOOD**. *Ibid.* (p. 170). Then by the rood, **A BONE IN YOUR HOOD**, I shall put you ere long.

**HOODLUM**, *subs.* (American). — A boy rough. Also, a rough of either sex. Also (political), a low - class voter. Originally Californian. *Cf.*, **ARAB**.

1872. *Sacramento Weekly Union*, 24 Feb., p. 2. All the boys to be trained as scribes, tape-measurers, counter-hoppers, clerks, pettifoggers, polite loafers, street-hounds, **HOODLUMS**, and bums.

1877. *Los Angeles Express*, 25 Aug. A gang of boys . . . associated for the purpose of stealing. . . Their words of warning were 'Huddle 'em, Huddle 'em.' . . . soon contracted into **HOODLUM**.

1877. *Boston Journal*, Aug. You at the East have but little idea of the **HOODLUMS** of this city. They compose a class of criminals of both sexes, far more dangerous than are to be found in the Eastern cities. They travel in gangs, and are ready at any moment for the perpetration of any crime.

1877. *Congregationalist*, 26 Sep. A newspaper man attempting to coin a word to designate a gang of young street Arabs under the beak of one named 'Muldoon,' hit upon *noodlums*, simply reversing the leader's name. . . The compositor, taking the *n* for an *h*, printed it **HOODLUM**.

1877. *Morning Call*, 27 Oct. The rowdy element in the city . . . who were soon after designated as **HOODLUMS**.

1885. *G. A. SALA*, in *Daily Telegraph*, 12 Aug., p. 5, c. 5. In order to guard against the contingency of the white **HOODLUMS**, or roughs, coming down in force from the American quarter of the city [San Francisco], and 'going for' the **Celestials**.



1838. *Missouri Republican*, 31 Mar. It is conceded by all that the HOODLUMS have nominated weak men, and the citizens will have easy sailing on Tuesday.

1890. NORTON, *Political Americanisms*, s.v. HOODLUMS, A general name for ruffians. It originated on the Pacific coast, as the designation of a company of young ruffians in San Francisco (about 1868). Subsequently it spread Eastward, and attained some political significance; as 'the HOODLUM element' in politics.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 29 Feb., p. 2, c. 2. A right of public meeting dependent on the good will of the HOODLUM is not worth having.

1893. *National Observer*, 4 Mar., ix., 398. In America, home of the HOODLUM, where they turn their murderers into mayors.

**HOODMAN**, *subs.* (old).—A blind man; a GROPER (*q.v.*).

*Adj.* (old).—1. Blind. Also HOODMAN BLIND=blind drunk; *cf.*, sense 2. Fr., *berlu* and *sans mirettes*.

2. (streets).—Drunk. For synonyms, *see* DRINKS and SCREWED.

**HOOF**, *subs.* (common).—A foot. For synonyms, *see* CREEPERS.

1836. M. SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 134. Contriving in their complex twirlifications not only to tread heavily on my toes with his own HOOFs, but to hop his partner repeatedly over the same unfortunate members.

1838. GRANT, *Sketches in London*, p. 213. He again put both his ugly HOOFs on it.

1867. BROWNE ('Artemus Ward'), *Among the Mormons* [People's ed.], p. 193. Waving their lily-white HOOFs in the dazzling waltz.

1892. SYDNEY WATSON, *Wops the Waif*, ch. iv., p. 5. Teddy, look out, yer've got yer HOOF on my trotters!

*Verb* (common).—To kick; *e.g.*, TO HOOF (or TOE) ONE'S BUM; to ROOT (*q.v.* for synonyms).

Hence TO HOOF OUT=to eject; to dismiss; to discharge; to decline to see.

TO HOOF IT, (or TO PAD or BEAT THE HOOF), *verb. phr.* (common). To walk; to 'tramp it'; to run away. For synonyms, *see* AMPUTATE and SKEDADDLE. Hence HOOF-PADDING.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives*, i., 3. Rogues, hence, avaunt, vanish like hailstones, go: Trudge, plod, AWAY O' THE HOOF.

d. 1697. COTTON, *Poems*, 'Epistles' (CHALMERS *English Poets*), vi., 736. Being then on foot away I go And BANG THE HOOF incognito.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOOF IT or BEAT IT ON THE HOOF, to walk on Foot.

1691-2. WOOD, *Athene Oxonienses*, ii., 560. Landing at Liverpool, in Lancashire, they all BEATED IT ON THE HOOF thence to London.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1772. CUMBERLAND, *Fashionable Lover*. Prologue. I am a devil, so please you, and must HOOF UP to the poet yonder with this proof.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOOF. To BEAT THE HOOF, to travel on foot; he HOOFED IT, or BEAT THE HOOF, every step of the way from Chester to London.

1813. J. and H. SMITH, *Horace in London*, 'Hurly-Burly', p. 24. When hostile squadrons BEAT THE HOOF.

1837. DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, ch. ix. Charley Bates expressed his opinion that it was time TO PAD THE HOOF.

1885. *Detroit Free Press*, 5 Sept., p. 1, c. 1. These busted theatrical people who are HOOFING IT back to Detroit. They come along at all hours of the day and night.

1888. LYNCH, *Mountain Mystery*, ch. xviii. I s'posed he was tired out, and had got over watchin' for tricks. So I HOOFED IT in.

1892. MILLIKEN, *'Arry Ballads*, p. 70. Scenery's all very proper, but where is the genuine pot who'd PAD THE 'OOF over the moors.

TO SET ONE'S HOOF IN (a thing), *verb. phr.* (common).—To detect personal influence or interference in a matter.

1863. THACKERAY, *Roundabout Papers*, 'On Screens in Dining Rooms' (1887, p. 58). I am informed by the same New York correspondent that . . . I once said to a literary gentleman, who was possibly pointing to an anonymous article as his writing, 'Ah! I thought I RECOGNISED YOUR HOOF IN IT.'

**HOOF-PADDER**, *subs.* (common).—A pedestrian.

**HOOFY**, *adj.* (common).—Splay (or large).

**HOOK**, *subs.* (thieves').—1. A finger. (*Cf.* CUNT-HOOKS). For synonyms, *see* FORK. In *plural*=the hands. Also, HOOKS and FEELERS.

d. 1842. MAGINN, *Vidocq Versified*. To his clies my HOOKS I throw in.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iv., p. 259. I one day asked a man . . . if the hard work of prison did not spoil his hands for delicate manipulations. 'Oh, bless you, no!' he replied; . . . In a week or two a man can bring his HOOKS and feelers into full working trim again and no mistake.

2. (thieves').—A thief. Specifically, a pickpocket; a HOOKER (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* THIEVES.

1562. *Jacke Juggler* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ii., 139). So, yonder cometh that unhappy HOOK.

1887. HORSLEY, *Jottings from Jail*. Take my tip and turn square, from a hook who is going to be lagged, would be, in common parlance, take my advice and get your living honestly.

1892. ANSTEV, *Voces Populi* (2nd Series). 'In Trafalgar Square.' A professional HOOK.

3. (common).—A catch; an advantage; an imposture.

*Verb.* (old).—1. To rob; to steal. Specifically, to steal watches, rings, etc., from a shop by cutting

a small hole in the window, and fishing for such articles with a piece of string with a hook at the end.

1615. *Albumazar*, iii., 3. Is not this braver than sneak all night in danger, Picking of locks, or HOOKING cloths at windows.

b. 1796. BURNS, *Jolly Beggars*. For mony a pursie she had HOOKIT.

1876. CLEMENS [Mark Twain], *Tom Sawyer*, p. 34. And while Aunt Polly closed with a happy Scriptural flourish, Tom HOOKED a doughnut.

1884. M. TWAIN, *Huck Finn*, xxx., 312. Didn't you have it in your mind to hook the money and hide it?

2. (colloquial).—To secure, as for marriage; to marry.

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*, ch. xviii. I wonder if Mrs. Traff has contrived to HOOK him for her sweet Laura.

1892. MANVILLE FENN, *New Mistress*, ch. xxv. Have you I will—there now. Don't you think you're going to HOOK Lambert.

*Intj.* (Oxford Univ.).—An expression implying doubt. [Query from the note of interrogation (?) or connected with HOOKEY WALKER (*q.v.*).]

ON THE HOOK, *subs. phr.* (common).—1. On the thief; ON THE CROSS (*q.v.*).

2. (old).—On the HIP (*q.v.*); at an advantage.

1694. CONGREVE, *Double Dealer*, iv., 18. Consider I have you ON THE HOOK; you will but flounder yourself a-weary, and be nevertheless my prisoner.

HOOK AND EYE, *subs. phr.* (tailors').—Arm in arm.

TO TAKE (OR SLING) ONE'S HOOK (OR TO HOOK IT), *verb. phr.* (common).—To decamp; to run away. For synonyms, *see* AMPUTATE and SKEDADDLE.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, ii., 137. He slipped from her and HOOKED IT.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xlv. 'HOOK IT! Nobody wants you here,' he ses. 'YOU HOOK IT. You go and tramp,' he ses.

1856. BRADLEY [Cuthbert Bede], *Tales of College Life*, p. 36. HOOK IT! old 'un, HOOK IT!

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenstoe*, ch. xli. They all begins to get a bit noisy and want to fight, and so I HOOKED IT.

1891. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 16 Jan., p. 43, col. 3. If you lot don't HOOK IT, I'll stave in your blooming cocoa-nuts.

1891. *Sportsman*, 2 Apr., p. 2, col. 1. Plainly the worthy magistrate laid it down that a wife may HOOK IT when and how s'he pleases.

1892. ANSTEV, *Model Music Hall*, 129-30. TAKE YOUR 'OOK while you cin. Even now the outraged populace approaches.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 58. I went jest for a lark, and wos quietly SLINGING MY 'OOK.

1892. KIPLING, *Barrack-Room Ballads*, 'Loot.' Before you SLING YOUR 'OOK, at the 'ousetops take a look.

1892. *Globe*, 19 Oct., p. 3. Again from some neighbouring roof comes back the weird responsive cry, HOOK IT! HOOK IT.

1892. HERBERT CAMPBELL, *Broad-side Ballad*, 'Then Up Comes I with My little Lot.' And the houses shook and the copper TOOK HIS 'OOK, and down come all the tiles.

TO DROP (GO, OR POP) OFF THE HOOKS, *verb. phr.* (common).—  
1. To die. For synonyms, see ALOFT.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Black Mousquetaire.' I fear by his looks, Our friend, Francis Xavier, has POP'D OFF THE HOOKS!

1842. *Punch's Almanack*, Dec. 15. Death wandered by the sea And struck by Walton's looks Broke Isaac's line of life And took HIM OFF THE HOOKS.

1872. M. E. BRADDON, *Dead Sea Fruit*, ch. iv. 'S'pose the odds are against Jerningham GOING OFF THE HOOKS between this and the first spring-meeting, so as to give a party a chance with Mrs. J. herself,' speculates young Belgravia, dreamily.

1880. GREENWOOD, *Odd People in Odd Places*, p. 37. I thought, to be sure, I was GOING OFF THE HOOKS, and it was no use talking about it.

1890. GRANT ALLEN, *Tents of Shem*, ch. xii. The old man has POPPED OFF THE HOOKS this afternoon at Aix.

2. (colloquial).—To get married.

1876. M. E. BRADDON, *Joshua Haggard*, ch. x. Some of the young chaps will be wanting her to get married. These here pretty ones GO OFF THE HOOKS so soon.

TO HOOK ON TO, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To attach oneself to; TO BUTTONHOLE (*q.v.*); to follow up.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 4. It's nuts to 'OOK ON TO a swell.

ON ONE'S OWN HOOK, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—On one's own account, risk; or responsibility; for one's own sake; dependent on one's own resources or exertions.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 23. The signal was given, and in poured the subscribers to the dinner, with their guest, and in poured John ON HIS OWN HOOK.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. lxix. Do we come out as Liberal Conservative, or as Government man, or ON OUR OWN HOOK?

1861. WHYTE MELVILLE, *Good for Nothing*, ch. xxvii. I worked ON MY OWN HOOK, after that, and I rather think I paid my expenses.

1869. GREENWOOD, *Seven Curses of London*, p. 409. To steal ON YOUR OWN HOOK as a bookmaker.

1889. *Answers*, p. 53, c. 3. Finally Edison went to work ON HIS OWN HOOK.

1893. EMERSON, *Signor Lippe*, ch. viii. We used to have to part company and go in twos and threes then ON OUR OWN HOOK.



BY HOOK OR BY CROOK, *phr.* (colloquial).—By some means or other; by fair means or foul; at all hazards. [Probably of forestal origin.]

d. 1298. THOMAS THE RHYMER, *On Parliaments*. Their work was BY HOOK OR CROOK to rap and bring all under the emperor's power.

1525. *Bodmin Register*. Dynmure Wood was ever open and common to the . . . inhabitants of Bodmin . . . to bear away upon their backs a burden of lop, crop, HOOK, CROOK, and bag wood.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Collyn Cloute*. Nor wyll suffer this boke BY HOOKE NE BY CROOKE Prynted for to be.

1550. BACON, *Fortress of the Faithful*. Whatsoever is pleasant or profitable must be theirs BY HOOK OR BY CROOK.

1557. TUSSEY, *Good Husbandrie*, 30 Mar. Watch therefore in Lent, to thy sheepe go and look, For dogs will have vitells BY HOOKE AND BY CROOKE.

1566. ARCHBP. PARKER, *Correspondence* (Parker Soc.), p. 252. To win him in time, BY HOOK OR CROOK.

1596. SPENSER, *Faery Queen*, v., 2, 27. The spoyle of people's euill gotten good, The which her sire had scrapt BY HOOKE AND CROOKE.

1598. FLORIO, *World of Wordes*, s.v. *Barocco*, a shift made for good cheere, meate and drinke gotten BY HOOKE OR CROOKE.

1621. BURTON, *Anatomy of Melancholy*, xi., 186 (1836). BY HOOK AND BY CROOK he will obtain it.

1629. FONSECA [Eng. by J. M.], *Devout Contemplations*. Bee it BY HOOKE OR BY CROOKE, by right or wrong.

1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, iii., 1. Which he BY HOOK, OR CROOK, had gather'd.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. BY Hedge or By Style, BY HOOK OR BY CROOK.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1781. COWPER, *Letter to Newton*, 12 July. And BY HOOK OR CROOK, with another book, If I live and am here, another year.

1820. REYNOLDS [Peter Corcoran]. *The Fancy*. Father, ere our purpose cool, Get down BY HOOK OR CROOK to Liverpool.

1824. HITCHINGS and DREW, *Hist. Cornwall*, ii., 214. The prior's cross, on which is cut the figure of a hook and a crook, in memory of the privilege granted . . . to the poor . . . for gathering such boughs and branches of such trees . . . as they could reach with a hook or by a crook . . . whence . . . they will have it BY HOOK AND BY CROOK.

1836. MICHAEL SCOTT, *Cruise of the Midge*, p. 363. We must be manned BY HOOK OR CROOK, you know, however unwilling to distress running ships.

1868. READE and BOUCCAULT, *Foul Play*, p. 54. Several fellow-creatures have cheated me. Well, I must get as much back, BY HOOK OR BY CROOK, from several fellow-creatures.

1883. W. BLACK, *Yolande*, ch. xlix. I should get you a ticket BY HOOK OR BY CROOK, if I failed at the ballot; I heard that one was sold for £40 the last time.

1888. RIDER HAGGARD, 'Mrs. Mee-son's Will' [in *Illustrated News*, Summer Number, p. 5, c. 1]. Somehow or other, it would go hard if, with the help of the one hundred a year that he had of his own, he did not manage, with his education, to get a living BY HOOK OR BY CROOK.

WITH A HOOK AT THE END, *phr.* (common).—A reservation of assent; OVER THE LEFT (*q.v.*); IN A HORN (*q.v.*). Cf., HOOK, *intj.*: and HOOKEY WALKER.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. HOOKEY WALKER—and WITH A HOOK, usually accompanied by a significant upliftment of the hand and crooking of the forefinger, implying that what is said is a lie, or is to be taken contrary-wise.

1843. MONCRIEFF, *Scamps of London*, i., 1. *Bob*. Will you have some gin? *Fogg*. Gin—Yes! *Bob* (turning away). Ha—ha!—WITH A HOOK . . . I wish you may get it.

1870. TRAILL, *Saturday Songs*, p. 22. It's go and go over the left, It's go WITH A HOOK AT THE END.

OFF THE HOOKS, *phr.* (old).—Out of temper; vexed; disturbed; out of sorts. Fr., *sortir de ses gonds* = off the HINGES (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see NAB THE RUST.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*. 'Bum-fodder.' That's a thing would please the Butchers and Cooks, To see this stinking Rump quite OFF THE HOOKS.

1665. PEPYS, *Diary*, 26 May. In the evening by water to the Duke of Albemarle, whom I found mightily OFF THE HOOKS, that the ships are not gone out of the River; which vexed me to see.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOOKS. OFF THE HOOKS, in an ill Mood, or out of Humour.

d. 1704. L'ESTRANGE [quoted in *Ency. Dict.*]. Easily put OFF THE HOOKS, and monstrous hard to be pleased again.

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., iiii, 22. Another that's in the Blacksmith's Books, And only to him for remedy looks, Is when a Man is quite OFF THE HOOKS.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1825. SCOTT, *St. Ronan's Well*, ch. xxx. Everybody that has meddled in this St. Ronan's business is a little OFF THE HOOKS— . . . in plain words, a little crazy.

**HOOK AND SNIVEY** (or **HOOKUM SNIVEY**), *subs. phr.* (old).—1. An imposture; specifically, the getting of food on false pretences.

1781. G. PARKER, *View of Society*, ii., 79. 'HOOK AND SNIVEY, with Nix the Buffer' [Title].

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HOOK AND SNIVEY WITH NIX THE BUFFER. This rig consists in feeding a man and a dog for nothing. . . . Three men, one of whom pretends to be sick and unable to eat, go to a public house; the two well men make a bargain with the landlord for their dinner, and when he is out of sight feed their pretended sick companion and dog gratis.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HOOK AND SNIVVY—practised by soldiers in quarters when they obtain grub for *nix*.

1835 in *Comic Almanack* 1835-43 (Hotten), p. 17, *Zoological Society at HOOKUM SNIVEY*. A new animal has been transmitted from No-Man's Land, which has been named the Flat-Catcher.

2. (old).—An impostor as described in sense 1.

3. (streets).—A contemptuous or sarcastic affirmation, accom-

panied by the gesture of TAKING A SIGHT (*q.v.*) or PLAYING HOOKEY (*q.v.*).

4. (thieves').—A crook of thick iron wire in a wooden handle, used to undo the wooden bolts of doors from without.

1801. EDGEWORTH, *Irish Bulls*, With that I ranges 'em fair and even on my HOOK 'EM SNIVEY, up they goes.

**HOOKED**, *adj.* (old).—See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOOKT, over-reached, Snapt, Tricket.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HOOKER**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—1. A thief; an ANGLER (*q.v.*). Also, (modern) a watch-stealer; a DIP (*q.v.*). Cf. quots. 1567 and 1888.

1567. HARMAN, *Caveat*, p. 35. These HOKERS, or Angglers, be peryllous and most wicked knaues, . . . they customably carry with them a staffe of v. or vi. foote long, in which, within one ynch of the tope thereof, ys a lytle hole bored through, [leaf g] in which hole they putte an yron hoke, and with the same they wyll pluck vnto them quickly any thing that they may reche ther with.

1610. ROWLANDS, *Martin Mark-all*, p. 8 (H. Club's Rept., 1874). They are sure to be clyd in the night by the angler, or HOOKER, or such like pilferers that liue upon the spoyle of other poore people.

d. 1626. JOHN DAVIES, *Scourge of Folly*, p. 34. [Wks., Ed. Grosart]. A false knaue needs no brokers, but a broker Needs a false knaue (a hangman or a HOOKER).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOOKERS, the third Rank of Canters; also Sharpers.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1834. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, bk. III., ch. v. No strange Abram, ruffler crack, HOOKER of another pack.

1888. *Tit Bits*, 17 Nov., p. 82, col. 2. There are usually three men in a gang; the HOOKER having got into conversation with his man, number two 'covers' his movements, whilst number three (on the opposite side of the

street) keeps a look-out for the 'enemy.' The HOOKER, having by careful manipulation got a hold of the desired prize, detaches it from the chain by breaking the ring and passes it to number two, who in turn passes it on to number three, from whom it is usually transferred to a receiver and melted down within a few hours of its being purloined.

2. (American).—A prostitute: *i.e.*, a fisher, angler, or HOOKER of men. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK HACK and TART.

**HOOKEY.** TO PLAY HOOKEY, *verb. phr.* (American). — To play truant; to do CHARLEY-WAG (*q.v.*).

1876. CLEMENS [Mark Twain], *Tom Sawyer*, p. 100. Took his flogging . . . for PLAYING HOOKEY the day before.

TO DO (or PLAY) HOOKEY (or HOOKY), *verb. phr.* (common). — To apply the thumb and fingers to the nose; TO TAKE A SIGHT (*q.v.*); TO COFFEE-MILL (*q.v.*).

**HOOKEY WALKER!** (or **WALKER!**) *intj.* (common). — Be off! go away. Also implying doubt. *Cf.*, WITH A HOOK. [BEE: From John Walker, a hook-nosed spy, whose reports were proved to be fabrications.]

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v. HOOKEY WALKER, An expression signifying that the story is not true, or that he thing will not occur.

1843. DICKENS, *Christmas Carol* [1843], p. 169. 'Buy it,' said Scrooge. 'WALKER!' said the boy.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Old Woman Clothed in Grey.' For mere unmeaning talk her Parch'd lips babbled now,—such as HOOKEY!—and WALKER!—She expired, with her last breath expressing a doubt If 'his Mother were fully aware he was out?'

1840. 'Characters of Freshmen' (WHIBLEY, *Cap and Gown*, p. 183). The pestilent freshman . . . is very pugnacious, and walking in the streets suddenly turneth and a-keth a huge snob 'what tle

deuoe he meant by that?' Whereat the snob (having done nothing at all) coolly answereth (as the Pestilent Freshman intended he should) HOOKY WALKER, provocative of a combat.

**HOOKING - COW**, *subs.* (Western American).—A cow that shows fight.

1887. FRANCIS, *Saddle and Mocassin*. One . . . was . . . a HOOKING-COW, and to escape her repeated charges tested all our ability.

**HOOK-POINTED** (or **HOOK-PINTLED**), *adj.* (venery). — Imperfectly erected. *Cf.*, LOB (*q.v.*).

**HOOK-POLE LAY**, *subs. phr.* (old). — Pulling a man off his horse by means of iron hooks at the end of a long pole, and plundering him. (SMITH, *Lives of Highwaymen*, III., 192, 1720).

**HOOK-SHOP**, *subs.* (American).—A brothel. [HOOKER (*q.v.*) = prostitute.] For synonyms, *see* NANNY-SHOP.

**HOOP**, *subs.* (American). — 1. A ring.

2. (Devon).—*See* BULLFINCH.

3. (venery).—The female *pu-dendæum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

*Verb* (old). — To beat. TO WELL HOOP ONE'S BARREL = to thrash soundly. For synonyms, *see* TAN.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

TO HOOP IT (or GO THROUGH THE HOOP), *verb. phr.* (old).—1. To pass the Insolvent Debtor's Court; TO GET HOOPED UP = WHITEWASHED (*q.v.*). For synonyms, *see* DEAD-BROKE.



2. (old).—To run away. For synonyms, *see* AMPUTATE and SKEDADDLE.

1839. BRANDON, *Poverty, Mendicity, and Crime*, 116. I have heard them tell . . . boys . . . who have HOOPED IT from home that they had better go back whilst they had a home to go to.

**HOOPER'S HIDE**, *subs. phr.* (old ventry).—Copulation. For synonyms, *see* GREENS.

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 278. The while that his wife with Willy Was playing at HOOPER'S HIDE.

**HOOB-STICK**, *subs.* (common).—The arm. For synonyms, *see* CHALK FARM.

**HOOSIER**, *subs.* (American).—A native of Indiana. [Perhaps the most reasonable of several ingenious explanations is, that in the early days the customary challenge or greeting in that region was, 'Who's yer?' (who's here?): pronounced hoosier.—NORTON.]

1843. D. CORCORAN, *A Genuine Hoosier*. An original character is your genuine HOOSIER. By genuine, we mean such a one as has all the attributes that peculiarly belong to the back-woodsmen of the West.

1847. DARLEY, *Drama in Pokerville*, p. 197. None of them 'cotton'd' to him more kindly than an elderly HOOSIER from the innermost depths of Indiana.

1848. DURIVAGE, *Stray Subjects*, p. 79. There is a swarm of 'suckers,' 'HOOSIERS,' 'buckeyes,' 'corn-crackers,' and 'wolverines' eternally on the *qui vive* in those parts.

**HOOTER**, *subs.* (American).—I A steam-whistle; an AMERICAN DEVIL (*q.v.*).

2. (colloquial).—A wooden trumpet, so contrived as to make a horrible noise.

3. (American).—A corruption of 'iota': *e.g.*, 'I don't care a HOOTER for him.'

**HOOING-PUDDING**, *subs.* (provincial).—A plum-pudding with such a paucity of plums that you can hear them hooting after each other.—*Slang, Jargon, and Cant.*

**HOP**, *subs.* (common).—A dance. [Generally informal, as a CINDERELLA (*q.v.*).] Also, as in quot. 1579, the motions of dancing. For synonyms, *see* SKIP.

1579. GOSSON, *Schoole of Abuse*, p. 33 (Arber's Ed.). He gaue Dauncers great stipends for selling their HOPPS.

1811. JANE AUSTEN, *Sense and S.*, ch. ix. At a little HOP at the park, he danced from eight o'clock till four.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HOP— a contra-dance of ordinary persons and promiscuous company is 'a HOP' and 'a penny-hop' from the price formerly paid for admission.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*, iv. He gave them from time to time a very agreeable HOP.

1847. THACKERAY, *Mrs. Perkins's Ball (Mr. Larkins)*. To describe this gentleman's infatuation for dancing, let me say, in a word, that he will even frequent boarding-house HOPS, rather than not go.

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 189. The 'temple' was generally cleared for a HOP two or three times during the week.

1850. SMEDLEY, *Frank Fairleigh*, p. 121. You'll be at old Coleman's HOP to-night, I suppose; so bye! bye! for the present.

1852. BRISTED, *Upper Ten Thousand*, p. 129. Two undress-balls—HOPS they were.

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 Nov., p. 5, c. 3. At all seasons there is an immense amount of dancing; and at Washington there are continual 'hotel HOPS' in the winter.

1887. W. S. GILBERT, *Patience*, ii. Prefers suburban HOPS To all your Monday Pops.

1889. *Lippincott*, Oct., p. 447. Hang me if she isn't always on the plain, or at a HOP, with one of those twin kids!

1892. KIPLING, *Barrack Room Ballads*. 'Gentlemen Rankers.' To dance with blowzy housemaids at the regimental HOPS.

HOP-AND-GO-KICK, *subs. phr.* (tailors'). — A lameter; a HOP-AND-GO-ONE. Cf., DOT-AND-CARRY-ONE.

TO HOP THE WAG, *verb. phr.* (common). — To play truant, or CHARLEY-WAG (*q.v.*).

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, iii., 207. They often persuaded me TO HOP THE WAG, that is play truant from school.

TO HOP (OR JUMP) OVER THE BROOM (OR BROOMSTICK), *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To live as husband and wife; to LIVE (OR GO) TALLY (*q.v.*).

1811. POOLE, *Hamlet Travestied*, ii., 3. JUMP O'ER A BROOMSTICK, but don't make a farce on The marriage ceremonies of the parson.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 336. There was always a BROOMSTICK wedding. Without that ceremony a couple weren't looked on as man and wife.

1860. DICKENS, *Great Expectations*, xlviii., 227. This woman in Gerrard Street, here, had been married very young, OVER THE BROOMSTICK (as we say), to a tramping man.

c. 18(79). *Broadside Ballad*, 'David Dove that Fell in Love.' By L. M. THORNTON. The girl that I had hoped to hear Pronounce my happy doom, sir, Had bolted with a carpenter, In fact HOPPED O'ER THE BROOM, sir.

TO HOP THE TWIG, *verb. phr.* (common). — I. To leave; to run away; TO SKEDADDLE (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see AMPUTATE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 143. HOP THE TWIG . . . means to depart suddenly.

1830. EGAN, *Finish to Life in London*, p. 217. I have lost my tigger; and all my toggery has been boned, I am

nearly as naked as when I was born—and the cause—the lady bird—has HOPPED THE TWIG.

1884. *Daily News*, 31 Oct., p. 3, c. 1. They knocked the Liberals down as fast as they could until they got too numerous and strong, and then we HOPPED THE TWIG.

1888. *All the Year Round*, 9 June 543. TO HOP THE TWIG . . . and the like, are more flippant than humorous.

2. (common). — To die; to 'kick the BUCKET' (*q.v.*); TO PEG OUT (*q.v.*). Also TO HOP OFF.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS. To be content; to cock up one's toes; to croak; to cut (or let go) the painter; to cut one's stick; to give in; to give up; to go to Davy Jones' locker; to go off the hooks; to go under; to go up; to kick the bucket; kickeraboo (West Indian); to lay down one's knife and fork; to lose the member of one's mess; to mizzle; to pass in one's checks; to peg out; to put on a wooden surtout; to be put to bed with a shovel; to slip one's cable; to stick one's spoon in the wall; to snuff it; to take an earth bath; to take a ground sweat.

FRENCH SYNONYMS. — *Passer l'arme à gauche* (pop. : = to ground arms); *casser sa pipe* (= to break one's pipe); *dévisser* or *décoller son billard* (= to break one's cue); *graisser ses bottes* (= to grease one's boots); *avalier sa langue* (= to swallow one's tongue); *avalier sa gaffe* (= to lower one's boat-hook); *avalier sa cuiller* or *sa fourchette* (= to swallow one's spoon or one's fork); *avalier ses baguettes* (military : = to swallow one's drumsticks); *n'avoir plus mal aux dents* (= to get rid of the toothache : *mal de dents*, also = love);

*poser sa chique* (pop. : = to put down one's quid); *claquer* (familiar : = to croak); *saluer le public* (theat. : = to go before the curtain); *recevoir son décompte* (military : = to get one's quietus; *décompte* = also [military] a mortal wound); *cracher son embouchure* (= to spit one's mouthpiece); *déteindre* (pop. : = to wash off one's colour); *donner son dernier bon à tirer* (familiar : in American = to pass in one's checks; properly = to send one's last proof to press); *lâcher la perche* (pop. : = to hop the twig); *éteindre son gaz* (pop. : = to turn off one's gas. Cf., to snuff it); *épointer son foret* (pop. : = to blunt one's drill, as in boring); *être exproprié* (pop. : = to be dispossessed); *exproprier* (= to take possession of a debtor's land); *péter son lof* (sailor's); *fumer ses terres*; *fermer son parapluie* (pop. : = to close one's umbrella); *perdre son bâton* (pop. : = to lose one's walking stick); *descendre la garde* (pop. : = to come off guard); *défiler la parade* (military : = to face about); *tortiller*, or *tourner de l'ail* (pop.); *perdre le goût du pain* (pop. : = to lose one's appetite); *lâcher la rampe* (theat. : = to chuck the footlights); *faire ses petits paquets* (pop. : = to pack up one's traps); *casser son crachoir* (pop. : = to break one's spittoon); *remercier son boulanger* (thieves' : = to thank the baker; *boulanger* = the Devil); *canner*; *dévider à l'estorçue* (thieves'); *baiser* or *épouser la Camarde* or *camarder* (pop. : = to hug, or go to church with, Mother Bones [*Camarde* = Death]); *fuir* (thieves' : = to flee or escape); *casser son câble* (pop. : = to slip one's cable); *casser son fouet* (pop. : = to break one's whip); *faire sa crêaison*

(pop. : *crêver* = to burst up); *déralinguer* (sailors' : = to loo-e from the bolt-rope); *virer de bord* (sailors' : = to tack about); *déchirer son faux-col* (pop. : = to break one's collar); *dégeler* (= to thaw); *couper sa mèche* (coachman's : = to cut off one's lash); *piquer sa plaqu* (sailors'); *mettre la table pour les asticots* (pop. : = to lay the cloth for the worms); *aller manger les pissenlits par la racine* (pop. : = to go grubbing off dandelion roots); *laisser fuir son tonneau* (familiar); *calancher* (vagrants'); *laisser ses bottes quelque part* (familiar : = to leave one's boots about); *déchirer son habit* (pop. : = to tear one's coat); *déchirer son tablier* (pop. : = to tear one's apron); *souffler sa veilleuse* (pop. : = to blow out one's candle : cf., to snuff it); *pousser le bœuf du cygne* (pop.); *avoir son coke* (familiar : = to get one's cargo); *rendre sa secousse* (pop.); *rendre sa bûche* (tailors'); *rendre sa canne au ministre* (military : = to resign one's commission); *rendre sa clef* (gipsy : = to give in one's key); *rendre son lièvre* (pop. : = to pass in one's checks); *passer au dixième régiment* (military); *s'ennuyer* (pop. : = to be at death's door); *chasser les mouches* (pop. : to go fly-catching); *ingurgiter son bilan* (popular); *resserrer son linge* (pop.); *faire sa malle* (pop. : = to pack one's trunk); *avalier le goujon* (pop.); *s'habiller de sapin* (pop. : = to put on a wooden surtout); *avoir son compte* (pop.); *battre de l'ail* (thieves'); *s'évanouir* (pop. : to mizzle); *machaber* (pop. : *machabre* = the Dance of Death); *glisser* (pop.); *s'en aller dans le pays des marmottes* (pop. : *marmotte* = puppet); *déménager* (pop. : = to move house).



GERMAN SYNONYMS.—*Krauchen gehen*; *nijtern*; *pegern* or *peigern*; *schochern* or *verschochern* (=to get black); *verschwarzen*.

ITALIAN SYNONYMS. *Sbasire* (=to faint); *sbasire su le funi* (=to faint on the rope).

SPANISH SYNONYMS.—*Hacer bодоques* (=to take an earth bath); *liarlas* (=also to run away); *obispar*; *corvado* (= bent, curved); *cierito* (=certain).

1839. DANCE, *Alive and Merry*, i., 1. Couldn't you wait a bit till she's HOPPED OFF, and then you and I could marry, and be ladies and gentlemen?

1841. *Punch*, I., 2, 2. Clare pines in secret—HOPS THE TWIG and goes to glory in white muslin.

1842. *Punch*, vol. II, p. 20, c. 2. Yet henceforth—dash my wig! I'll live with thee, with thee I'll HOP THE TWIG!

1863. *Fun*, vol. IV., p. 188. The night when Cromwell died a storm tore up many of the trees [of St. James's Park]—though what connexion there may be between the destruction of their branches and the HOPPING THE TWIG of the Protector, we leave to our philosophical readers to decide.

1870. *Chambers's Miscellany*, No. 87, p. 26. That her disease was mortal, was past a doubt, and a month or two more or less could make no difference, provided she HOPPED OFF . . . before the year was expired.

ON THE HOP, *adv. phr.* (common). — 1. Unawares; at the nick of time; in *flagrante delicto*. Also ON THE H. O. P.

1868. *Broadside Ballad*, 'The Chickaleary Cove.' For to catch me ON THE HOP . . . You must wake up very early in the morning.

1870. *London Figaro*, 26 Aug. If to catch any of the more ordinary folk ON THE HOP is to secure a laugh, what must it be to catch the Tycoon 'on the—top?'

1872. *Daily Telegraph*, 3 Sept. Goodbye, Johnny: before I leave you, One more kiss before I go. For to catch me ON THE HOP.

1892. ANSTEV, *Model Music Hall*, 32. I never saw a smarter hand at serving in a shop, For every likely customer she caught UPON THE 'OP.

2. (common).—On the go; in motion; unresting.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arry Ballads, p. 22. A deal ON THE 'OP.

3. (colloquial). — See HIP.

HOPEFUL (or YOUNG HOPEFUL), *subs.* (colloquial). — A boy or young man; in sarcasm or contempt.

1856. BRADLEY ('Cuthbert Bede'), *Tales of College Life*, 24. He'll be no end riled at seeing his HOPEFUL play truant in this fashion.

HOP-(or HAP-)HARLOT, *subs.* (old). — A coarse coverlet; Cf., WRAP-RASCAL.

1807-8. HOLLINSHED, *Chronicles of England*, ch. 12. Covered only with a sheet, under coverlets made of dag-swain, or HOP-HARLOTS.

HOPKINS (HOPPY, or MR. HOPKINS), *subs.* (old).—A lameter. For synonyms, see DOT-AND-GO-ONE GILES.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

DON'T HURRY, HOPKINS! *phr.* (American). — Ironical to persons slow to move or to meet an obligation.

HOP-MERCHANT (or HOPPY), *subs.* (common).—A dancing master; a CAPER-MERCHANT (*q.v.*). Also, a fiddler.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v.

1892. SYDNEY WATSON, *Wops the Waf*, ch. iii., p. 4. Who-ay, Cully, here's HOPPY with the ROZIN.

**HOP-O-MY-THUMB**, *subs.* (common).—A dwarf.

1599. NASH, *Lenten Stuffe*, in *Wks.* v., 248. Though the greatnesse of the redde herring be not small (as small a HOPPE-ON-MY-THUMB as hee seemeth).

1603. DEKKER, etc., *Patient Grissell*, IV, ii., in *Wks.* (Grosart) vi., 195. *Bab.* No; he shall not haue them [children]: knocke out his braines, and saue the little HOP-A-MY-THOMBES.

1748. SMOLLETT, *Rod. Random*, ch. xi. You pitiful HOP-O'-MY-THUMB cox-comb.

1764. O'HARA, *Midas*, i., 5. You Stump-o'-the-gutter, you HOP-O'-MY-THUMB, A husband must for you from Lilliput come.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOP-O-MY-THUMB. She was such a HOP-O-MY-THUMB that a pigeon, on sitting on her shoulder, might pick a pea out of her a—se.

1821. SCOTT, *Kenilworth*, ch. xi. A mean-looking HOP-O'-MY-THUMB sort of person.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'Account of a New Play.' A HOP-O'-MY-THUMB of a Page.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Go-by-the-ground; grub; grundy; Jack Sprat; little breeches; shrimp; stump-of-the-gutter; tom-tit. See also, FORTY-FOOT.

**HOPPER**, *subs.* (colloquial).—The mouth. For synonyms, see POTATO-TRAP.

To GO A HOPPER, *verb. phr.* (sporting).—To go quickly.

**HOPPER-ARSED** (or **HIPPED**), *adj.* (old).—Large in the breech. Also (as in quot. 1529) snaggy-boned. Also as *subs.*

d. 1529. DUNBAR, *Poems*, 'Complaint to the King' (1836, l., 144). With HOPPER-HIPPIS and hanches narrow.

1672. WYCHERLEY, *Love in a Wood*, ii., 1. Moreover, she is bow-legged, HOPPER-HIPPED, and, betwixt pomatum and Spanish red, has a complexion like a Holland cheese.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cani. Crew*, s.v. HOPPER-ARST, when the Breech sticks out.

1704. KING, *Orpheus and Eurydice* (CHALMERS *English Poets*), vol. ix., p. 284. A lady of prodigious fame, Whose hollow eyes and HOPPER BREECH Made common people call her witch.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., vi., 351. And there'll be HOPPER-ARSED Nancy.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HOPPER-DOCKER**, *subs.* (old).—A shoe. For synonyms, see TROTTER-CASES.

**HOP-PICKER**, *subs.* (common).—1. Aprostitute; also HOPPING-WIFE. For synonyms, see BARRACK-HACK and TART.

1888. *Indoor Panpers*, p. 55. Numbers of them go regularly to the hop-gardens; and each man must have a female companion—a HOPPING WIFE as she is termed.

2. *in. pl.* (gaming).—The queens of all the four suits.

**HOPPING-GILES**, *subs.* (common).—A cripple. For synonyms, see DOT-AND-GO-ONE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.

1885. *Household Words*, 27 June, p. 180. St. Giles is the patron saint of cripples; hence a lame person is mockingly called HOPPING GILES.

**HOPPING-JESUS**, *subs.* (colloquial). A lameter. For synonyms, see DOT-AND-GO-ONE.

**HOPPING-MAD**, *adj.* (American).—Very angry.

**HOP-POLE**, *subs.* (common).—A tall, slight person, male or female. For synonyms, see LAMP-POST.

1850. SMEDLEY, *Frank Farleigh*, p. 5. I was tall for my age, but slightly built, and so thin, as often to provoke the application of such epithets as HOP-POLE, 'thread-paper,' etc.

**HORIZONTAL-REFRESHMENT**, *subs.* (venerary).—1. Carnal intercourse; cf., UPRIGHT. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE. [Fr., *une horizontale* = a prostitute.] Also, TO HORIZONTALISE.

2. (common). — Food taken standing; generally applied to a mid-day snack at a bar.

**HORN**, *subs.* (common). — 1. The nose. Also, **HORNEY**. For synonyms, *see* **CONK**.

1823. **BEE**, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. **HORNEY**—a nose; one that resounds in expectoration.

2. (common). — A drink; a dram of spirits. For synonyms, *see* **GO**.

1847. **PORTER**, *Quarter Race*, p. 193. Go on, Venus. Take another **HORN** first.

1848. **RUXTON**, *Life in the Far West*, p. 126. They called the Scotchman to take a **HORN**.

3. (venery). — An erection of the *penis*. [Properly of men only; but said of both sexes. In the feminine equivalents are **CUNT-ITCH** and **CUNT-STAND**].

Hence **TO GET** (or **HAVE**) **THE HORN**, *verb. phr.* = to achieve erection; **TO CURE THE HORN** = to copulate; **HORNING** and **HORNY**, in course of, or disposed to erection; **HORNIFICATION**, *subs.* = the state, or process, of erection; **HORNIFY** (*see verb*), = to get (or give) the horn; **MISS HORNER**, *subs.* = the *puerum muliebrem*; **OLD HORNEY** (or **HORNINGTON**) = the *penis*.

**ENGLISH SYNONYMS**. — Cock- (or prick-) stand; Irish toothache; in one's Sunday (or best) clothes; the jack; hard-on (American); horn-colic; horn-mad (said also of an angry cuckold); fixed bayonets; lance in rest; the old Adam; standing; on the stand; stiffened up; the spike.

4. (old). — The *penis*. For synonyms, *see* **CREAMSTICK** and **PRICK**.

5. (colloquial). — Also in *pl.*, *see verb*.

**HORN**, *verb* (colloquial). — To cuckold. [*Becco* (= a he-goat) and *cornuto* (= a horned thing) are good Italian for a cuckold; in Florio (*World of Words*, 1598) *andar in cornouaglia senza barca* (i.e., to go to Cornwall without a ship) = to win the horn; and the expression, as the example from Lydgate appears to show, may very well have been imported into English from the Italian. Also, it seems to have begun to be literary about the middle of the sixteenth century, when the Italian influence was at its height. For the rest it passed in triumph into written English, was used in every possible combination, had a run at least two centuries long, and is still intelligible, though not in common service.] *See* **ACTÆON**, **ANTLERS**, **BULL'S FEATHER**, **FREEMAN OF BUCKS**, etc.

Hence, **TO HORNIFY** (*see subs.*, sense 3), and **TO GRAFT** (or **GIVE**) **HORNS**; **TO WEAR HORNS** = to live a cuckold; **HORNER**, *subs.* = a cuckold maker; **HORN-MAD**, *adj. phr.* (q.v.); **HORNED**, *adj.* = cuckolded; **HORN-GROWER** (or **MERCHANT**) *subs.* = a married man; **HORN-FEVER**, *subs.* = cuckoldry; **TO EXALT ONE'S HORN**, *verb. phr.* = (1) to cuckold, and (2) to rejoice in, or profit by, the condition; **TO WIND THE HORN** = to publish the fact of cuckoldom; **HORNS-TO-SELL**, *subs. phr.* = (1) a lewd wife, and (2) a witto; **TO POINT THE HORN** = to fork the fingers in derision (as in Hogarth's 'Industrious and Idle Apprentice,' 1790, plate v.); **HORN-WORKS** = the process of cuckolding; **AT THE SIGN OF THE HORN** = in cuckoldom; **HORN-PIPE** = (*see quot.* 1602); **HORNED HERD**, *subs. phr.* = husbands in general (specifically, the city men, the Citizens of London (the cuckolding of whom by West-end gallants is a constant theme of seventeenth century jokes); **GILT-HORN**, *subs.* = a contented cuckold; **SPIRIT OF HARTSHORN** = the suspicion or the certainty of cuckoldom; **LONG HORNS**, *subs.* = a notorious cuckold; **KNIGHT OF HORNSEY**, also **MEMBER FOR HORN-CASTLE**, *subs. phr.* = a cuckold, etc.

d. 1440. **LYDGATE**, *Falle of Prynces*, ii., leaf 56 (ed. Wayland, 1557, quoted in



Dyce's *Skelton*, 1843, ii., 132). To speke plaine Englishe made him cokolde. Alas I was not auised wel before Vnkonnyngly to speake such language: I should haue -ayde how that he had an HORNE . . . And in some land Cornodo men do them call, And some affirme that such folk haue no gall.

c. 152(?). *Hick Scorner* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, i., 180). My mother was a lady of the stews, blood born, And (Knight of the Halter) my father wore an HORNE.

c. 1537. *Thersites* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, i., 412). Why wilt thou not thy HORNES inhold? Thinkest thou that I am a cuckold.

c. 1550. *The Pride and Abuse of Women* (176 in *Early Pop. Poetry*, ed. Hazlitt, iv., 237). And loke well, ye men to your wives . . . Or some wyll not styche . . . TO HORNE you on every side.

1568. *Bannatyne MSS.* 'The use of Court,' p. 765 (Hunterian Club, 1886). Vp gettis hir wame, Scho thinkis no schame for to bring hame The laird ane HORNE.

1574. *Appius and Virginia* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iv., 118). A hairbrain, a hangman, or a grafter of HORNES.

1575. *Laneham's Letter* (ed. 1871). p. 40. With yoor p-iciens, Gentlmen, . . . be it said: wear it not in deede that HORNZ bee so plentie, HORNWARE I beleeeue would bee more set by than it iz, and yet thear in our parts, that wyll not stick too auoow that many an honest man both in citee and cuntree hath his hoobs by HORNING well vphollden, and a daily freend also at need.

c. 1580. *Collier of Croydon* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, viii., 436). My head groweth hard, my HORNS will shortly spring.

1586. LUPTON, 1,000 *Not. Things*, ed. 1675, p. 261. Take heed thou art not HORN'D, and then feicht home.

1597. HALL, *Satires*, i., 8. Fond wittol that would'st load thy witless head, With timely HORNS before thy bridal bed. *Idem*, ii., 7. If chance it come to wanton Capricorne, And so into the Ram's disgraceful HORNE.

1598. SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, Act i., sc. 2. Well, he hath the HORN OF ABUNDANCE and the lightness of his wife shines through it.

1598. JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, v., 1. See, what a drove of HORNS fly in the air, Winged with my cleansed and my credulous breath.

1598. SILVESTER, *Du Bartas*, ed. 1641, v., 41. The adulterous Sargus . . . Courting the Shee Goate on the grassie shore Would HORN their husbands that had horns before.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man Out of his Humour*, iv., 4. Now HORN UPON HORN pursue thee, thou blind, egregious, dotard.

1600. *Look About You*, Sc. 10 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, v., 415). By adding HORNS unto our falcon's head.

1600. SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like it*, iv., 2. Take thou no scorn to wear the HORN, It was a crest ere thou wast born.

1600. SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, i. Then up comes the devil with his HORNS upon his head, looking like an old cuckold. *Ibid.* v. 1. But when shall we see the savage bull's HORNS on the sensible Benedict's head.

1601. JONSON, *Poetaster*, iv., 3. And there is never a star in thy forehead but shall be a HORN if thou dost persist to abuse me.

1602. CAMPION, *English Poesy* (BULLEN, *Works*, 1889, p. 248). Mock him not with HORNS, the case is altered.

1603. *Philotus* (PINKERTON, *Scottish Poems*, 1792, iii., 17). Sen thair may be na uther buit? Plat on his heid ane HORNE.

1604. MARSTON, *Malcontent* i., 1. Mendoza is the man makes thee a HORNED BEAST: 'tis Mendoza cornutes thee.

1605. JONSON, *Volpone*, ii., 4. *Volp.*: Nay, then, I not repent me of my late disguise. *Mos.*: If you can HORNE him, Sir, you need not.

1605. CHAPMAN, *All Fools*, v., 1 (*Plays*, 1874, p. 75). And will you BLOW THE HORN yourself where you may keep it to yourself? Go to, you are a fool. *Ibid.* (p. 76.) It may very well be that the devil brought HORNS into the world, but the women brought them to the men.

1607. *How a Man May Choose a Good Wife From a Bad*, ii., 1. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 28). *Quando venis apud*, I shall have two HORNS on my caput.

1607. DEKKER, *Northward Hoe*, Act i., p. 8. If a man be deurst, whether may he have an action or no, gainst those that MAKE HORNS AT HIM. *Ibid.* iv., p. 54. This curse is on all letchers throwne. They give HORNS and, at last, HORNES are their owne.

1608. ROWLANDS, *Humor's Looking Glass*, p. 22. Besides, shee is as perfect chast as faire, But being married to a jealous asse, He vowes shee HORNS him.

1609. JONSON, *Epicæne*, iii., 1. By that light you deserve to be grafted, and your HORNS reach from one side of the island to the other.

1616. JONSON, *Devil's an Ass*, v., 5. And a cuckold is, Wherever he puts his head, with a wannion, his HORNS be forth, the devil's companion.

1618. SAMUEL ROWLANDS, *The Night Raven*, p. 25. 'Tis this bad liver doth the HORNE - PLAGUE breed, Which day and night my jealous thoughts doth feed.

1623. COCKERAN, *Eng. Dict.* s.v. SARGUS, an adulterous fish which goes on the grassie shore, and HORNES the hee Goates that had horns before.

1627. DRAYTON, *Agincourt and Other Poems*, p. 174. Some made mouthes at him, others as in scorn With their fork fingers FOYNTE him THE HORN.

1629. DAVENANT, *Alboline*, ed. 1673, p. 436. 'Twas a subtle reach to tell him that the King had HORN'D his brow.

1633. ROWLEY, *Match at Midnight* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xlii., 40). HORNING the headman of his parish and taking money for his pains.

1633. FORD, *Love's Sacrifice*, iii., 3. Fernando is your rival, has stolen your duchess's heart, murder'd friendship; HORNS your head, and laughs at your horns.

1637. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Elder Brother*, iv., 4. I shall have some music yet At my making free o' th' company of HORNERS.

1640. RAWLINS, *The Rebellion*, i., 1. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 15). Fresh as a city bridegroom that has signed his wife a great for the GRAFTING OF HORNS.

1643 BROME, *A New Diurnal*. (CHALMERS, *Eng. Poets*, 1810, vi., 667). Prince Rupert, for fear that his name be confounded, Will saw off his HORNS, and make him a Roundhead.

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Women Pleased*, v. 3. I shall then be full of scorn, Wanton, proud (beware the HORN).

1653. MIDDLETON and ROWLEY, *The Spanish Gypsy*, iii., 1. Beggars would on cock-horse ride, And boobies fall a-roaring, And cuckolds though no HORNS be spied, Be one another goring.

1653. DAVENANT, *The Siege of Rhodes*, p. 34. It stuffs up the marriage bed with thorns, It gores itself, it gores itself with imagined HORNS.

1657. MIDDLETON, *Women, Beware of Woman* (1657), iii., 2. Cuckolds dance the HORNPIPE, and farmers dance the hay. *Idem.*, iv., 2. Go, lie down, master; but take care your HORNS do not make holes in the pillow-beers.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, i., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 280). My scene, Trillo, is HORN ALLEY. *Ibid.*, iii., 6 (p. 340). Doubt nothing, my fellow Knights of HORNSEY.

1661. WEBSTER, *Cure for a Cuckold* (1661), v., 2. He that hath HORNS thus let him learn to shed.

1663. KILLIGREW, *The Parson's Wedding*, iv., 1 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 473). I hope to EXALT THE Parson's HORN here. *Ibid.*, (p. 477). Only to fright the poor cuckolds and make the fools visit their HORNS. *Ibid.*, v., 4 (p. 519). Methinks my HORNS ache more than my corns. *Ibid.* ib (p. 520). I have seen a cuckold of your complexion: if he had lent as much hoof as HORN, you might have hunted the beast by the slot.

1664. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, II., ii. For when men by their wives are cowed, Their HORNS of course are understood.

1668. L'ESTRANGE, *Visions of Quevedo*, p. 251 (ed. 1708). He that marries, ventures fair for the HORN, either before or after.

1672. RAY, *Proverbs* (in BOHN, 1889), s.v. He had better PUT HIS HORNS IN HIS POCKET than wind them. *Idem.* (p. 184). HORNS and gray hairs do not come with years. *Idem.* id., Who hath HORNS in his pocket let him not put them on his head.

1675. WYCHERLEY, *Country Wife*, v., 4. Epilogue: Encouraged by our woman's man to-day, A HORNER's part may vainly think to play. *Ibid.* i., 1. I make no more cuckolds, sir. [MAKES HORNS.] *Ibid.*, iv., 3. If ever you suffer your wife to trouble me again here, she shall carry you home a pair of HORNS.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, iv., 1. First, the clandestine obscenity in the very name of HORNER.

d. 1680. BUTLER, *Remains* (1757), ii., 372. His own branches, his HORNS, are as mystical as the Whore of Babylon's PalFREYS, not to be seen but in a vision.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, iv., 15. Pox choke him. Would his HORNS were in his throat.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, iv., 15. The clocks will strike twelve at noon, and the HORNED HERD buzz in the Exchange at two.

1698. FARQUHAR, *Love and a Bottle*, iv., 3. Should I ever be tried before this judge, how I should laugh to see how gravely his goose cap sits upon a pair of HORNS!

1700. CONGREVE, *Way of the World*, iii., 7. Man should have his head and HORNS, and woman the rest of him.

1702. STEELE, *The Funeral or Grief à la Mode*, Act. 1., p. 22. This wench I know has played me false, and HORNED me in my gallants. [NOTE.—That the speaker is a female shows the word to have been transferable to the other sex.]

1708. W. KING, *Art of Love*, pt. x. (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, ix., 274). Sometimes his dirty paws she scorns, While her fair fingers show his HORNS.

1705. PRIOR, *Poems*. 'The Turtle and Sparrow,' line 302-9. 'Two staring HORNS,' I often said, 'but ill became a sparrow's head' . . . 'Whilst at the root your HORNS are sore, The more you scratch, they ache the more.'

1719. DUFFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 174. Who's the Cuckoo, Who's the Cuckold, who's the HORNER?

1728. PATRICK WALKER, *Alexander Peden*, 'Postscript' (ed. 1827, i.). A profane, obscene meeting called the HORN-ORDER.

1737. FIELDING, *Tumble-Down Dick*, *Works* (1718) iii., 408. Think it enough your betters do the deed, And that by HORNING you I mend the breed.

d. 1742. SOMERVILLE, *Occasional Poems* (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 238). If I but catch her in a corner, Humph! 'tis your servant, Colonel HORNER.

1759-67. STERNE, *Tristram Shandy*, ch. xxxvii. Nor have the horn-works he speaks of anything to do with the HORN-WORKS of Cuckoldom.

1765. C. SMART, *Fables*, xi., line 66. And though your spouse my lecture scorns. Beware his fate, beware his HORNS.

d. 1770. CHATTERTON, *The Revenge*, i., l. Let her do what she will, The husband is still, And but for his HORNS you would think him an ass. *Idem*, ii., 4 Have you come HORNING.

1785. GROSE, *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1786. CAPTAIN MORRIS (Collection of Songs), *The Great Plenipotentiary*, (9th ed. 1788, stanza ix., p. 43). She had HORNED the dull brows of her worshipful spouse Till they sprouted like Venus's myrtle.

d. 1796. BURNS, *Merry Muses*, 'Cuddy the Cooper,' p. 84. On ilka brow she's PLANTED a HORN, An' swears that there they shall stan', O.

1813. MOORE, *Poems*, 'Re-inforcements for the Duke,' iii., 209. Old H—df—t at HORN-WORKS again might be tried.

1818. QUIZ, *Grand Master*, canto vii., p. 199, line 10. (She) smil'd, declaring that she scorn'd him, (She might have added that she'd HORN'D him).

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, c. xxxvi. O what a generous creature is your true London husband! HORNS hath he, but, tame as a fatted ox, he goeth not.

1825. SCOTT, *The Betrothed*, ch. xvii. I ever tell thee, husband, the HORNS would be worth the hide in a fair market.

TO DRAW IN ONE'S HORNS, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To withdraw or to retract; to cool down.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HORNS.

TO HORN OFF, *verb. phr.* (American). = To put on one side; to shunt. [As a bull or stag with his horns.]

1851. HOOPER, *Widow Rugby's Husband*, etc., p. 69. You HORNED me off to get a chance to get gaming witnesses out of the way.

IN A HORN, *adv. phr.* (American).—A general qualification, implying refusal or disbelief; OVER THE LEFT (*q.v.*).

1858. *Washington Evening Star*, 26 Aug. I have mentioned before the innumerable comforts—IN A HORN—of the old White Sulphur Springs.

TO WIND (OR BLOW) THE HORN, *verb. phr.* (old).—To break wind; TO FART (*q.v.*).



1620. PERCY, *Folio, MSS.*, 'Fryar and Boye.' Her tayle shall wind the HORNE.

TO CURE THE HORN, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. See HORN, *subs.*, sense 3. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

TO HAVE THE HORN, *verb. phr.* (venery). See HORN, *subs.*, sense 3.

TO COME OUT OF THE LITTLE END OF THE HORN, *verb. phr.* (common).—To get the worst of a bargain; to be reduced in circumstances. Also, to make much ado about nothing. Said generally of vast endeavour ending in failure. ['Through some unexpected SQUEEZE (*q.v.*)].

1605. JONSON, CHAPMAN, and MARSTON, *Eastward Hoe*, i., 1. I had the horne of suretship ever before my eyes. You all know the devise of the HORNE, where the young fellow slippes in at the butte-end, and comes squest out at the buckall.

1624. FLETCHER, *Wife for a Month*, iii., 3. Thou wilt look to-morrow else Worse than the prodigal fool the ballad speaks of, That was squeezed THROUGH A HORN.

1847. PORTER, *Big Ben*, etc., p. 37. How did you make it? You didn't come out at the LITTLE END OF THE HORN, did you?

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 24. You never saw such a run of luck; everywhere I touched was *pizen*, and I came out OF THE LEETLE END OF THE HORN.

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 3 July, i., 2. The 'great Trek,' in that expressive transatlantic phrase, has toddled out OF THE LITTLE END OF THE HORN.

**HORN-COLIC**, *subs.* (venery).—See HORN, *subs.*, sense 3.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg Tongue*, s.v

**HORNET**, *subs.* (common).—A disagreeable, cantankerous person.

**HORNE** (or **HORNESS**), *subs.* (old).—1. A constable or watchman; a sheriff.

1319. VAUX, *Life*, s.v. HORNEY, a Constable.

1821. HAGGART, *Life*, 51. The woman missing it immediately, she sent for the HORNIERS.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HORNESS.

2. (Scots').—The devil; generally AULD HORNIE (*q.v.*).

1785. BURNS, *Address to the Deil*. O thou! whatever title suits thee, AULD HORNIE, Satan, Nick, or Cloutie.

**HORNIFY**, *verb.* (colloquial).—See HORN, *subs.*, sense 3 and *verb.*

2. (venery).—See HORN, *subs.*, sense 3.

**HORN-MAD** *adj.* (old).—1. See quot. 1690.

1593. SHAKSPEARE, *Comedy of Errors*, ii., 1. Why, mistress, sure my master is HORN-MAD.

1599. HENRY PORTER, *The Two Angry Women of Abingdon* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii.). And then I wound my horn, and he's HORN-MAD.

1604. MARSTON, *Malcontent*, i., 7. I am HORN MAD.

1605. JONSON, *The Fox*, iii., 6. Yet I'm not mad, Not HORN-MAD, see you.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, [1662], 293. The Country has grown sad, The City is HORN-MAD.

1647. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *The Woman's Prize*, ii., 6. After my twelve strong labours to reclaim her, Which would have made Don Hercules HORN-MAD.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HORN-MAD, stark staring Mad, because Cuckolded.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, iv., 22. Ay, I feel it here; I sprout; I bud; I blossom; I am ripe HORN-MAD.

1694. CONGREVE, *Double Dealer*, iv., 20. She forks out cuckoldom with her fingers, and you are running HORN-MAD after your fortune.

1695. CONGREVE, *Love for Love*, v., 8. She's mad for a husband, and he's HORN-MAD

1698. FARQUHAR, *Love and a Bottle*, iv., 3. Thou'rt HORN-MAD. Prithee, leave impertinence.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xxvi. Ye might as well expect brandy from beanstalks, or milk from a crag of blue whunstone. The man is mad, HORN-MAD, to boot.

1825. HARRIETTE WILSON, *Memoirs*, ii. 228. The little he did say was chiefly on the subject of cuckolds and cuckolding. His lordship was HORN-MAD.

2. (venery).—Sexually excited; lecherous; MUSTY (*q.v.*). Also, HORNY.

**HORN-SWOGGLE**, *subs.* (American).—Nonsense; HUMBBUG (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see GAMMON.

*Verb* (American).—To humbug; to delude; to seduce.—*Slang, Jargon, and Cant. Cf., IN A HORN.*

**HORN-THUMB**, *subs.* (old).—A pickpocket. [From the practice of wearing a sheath of horn to protect the thumb in cutting out.] See THIEVES.

1569. PRESTON, *Cambises* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1874, iv., 235). But cousin, because to that office ye are not like come, Frequent your exercises, a HORNE ON YOUR THUMB, A quick eye, a sharp knife.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii. I mean a child of the HORN-THUMB, a babe of booty, boy, a cut-purse.

1614. GREENE, *Looking-Glass* [Dyce], p. 138. I cut this from a new-married wife by means of a HORN-THUMB and a knife.—Six shillings, four pence.

**HORRORS**, *subs.* (common).—The first stage of *delirium tremens*. For synonyms, see GALLON-DIS-TEMPER. Also low spirits, or THE BLUES (*q.v.*).

1848. RUXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 50. Paying the penalty in a fit of HORRORS.

1857. *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* (quoted by Bartlett). This poison (fusil oil) which acts with terrible results on the nerves; seeming like a diabolical inspiration, stirring up mania, convulsions, and the HORRORS in an incredibly short space of time.

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, bk. iv., ch. viii. What are popularly called 'the trembles' being in full force upon him that evening, and likewise what are popularly called THE HORRORS, he had a very bad time of it; which was not made better by his being so remorseful as frequently to moan 'Sixty threepennorths.'

1864. F. W. ROBINSON, *Mr. Stewart's Intentions*, ch. i. 'Well, sermons always gave me THE HORRORS, and engendered a hate of the sermonizer.'

1883. STEVENSON, *Treasure Island* ch. iii., p. 20 (1886). If I don't have a drain o' rum, Jim, I'll have THE HORRORS.

1889. C. HADDON CHAMBERS, *In Australian Wilds*. He's sober now, you see; but he managed to get blind drunk before eleven o'clock this morning, and last week he narrowly escaped an attack of THE HORRORS.

1892. HENLEY and STEVENSON, *Three Rags*, 'Admiral Guinea,' iv., 3. It's THE HORRORS come alive.

2. (common).—Sausages. See CHAMBER OF HORRORS and DOG'S-PASTE.

3. (thieves').—Handcuffs. For synonyms, see DARBIES.

**HORSE**, *subs.* (common).—I. A five-pound note. See FINNUP.

2. (thieves').—Horsemonger Lane Gaol. Also THE OLD HORSE. Now obsolete.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., p. 457. The only thing that frightens me when I'm in prison is sleeping in a cell by myself—you do in THE OLD HORSE and the Steel.

3. (American).—A man: generally in affection. Also OLD HOSS, or HOSS-FLY.

1838. HALIBURTON ('Sam Slick'), *The Clockmaker*, 3 S., ch. xviii. He is all sorts of a HOSS, and the best live one that ever cut dirt this side of the big pond, or t'other side either.

1847. ROBB, *Squatter Life*, p. 74. What in the yearth did you do with old Hoss on the road?—He ain't *gin out*, has he? *Ibid.*, p. 70. None of your stuck-up imported chaps from the dandy states, but a real genuine westerner—in short, a HOSS!

1848. REXTON, *Life in the Far West*, p. 5. Hyar's a HOSS as'll make fire come.

1857. GLADSTONE, *Englishman in Kansas*, p. 43. Here, boys, drink. Liquors, captain, for the crowd. Step up this way, OLD HOSS, and liquor.

*Verb* (venery).—1. To possess a woman. For synonyms, *see* RIDE.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, iv., 3. Say'st thou so, filly? Thou shalt naye a leap presently, I'll HORSE thee myself, else.

2. (workmen's).—*See* QUOTS. *Cf.*, FLOG THE DEAD HORSE.

1857. *Notes and Queries*, 2 S., iv., p. 192. A workman HORSES it when he charges for more in his week's work than he has really done. Of course he has so much unprofitable work to get through in the ensuing week, which is called dead horse.

1867. *All the Year Round*, 13 July, p. 59. To HORSE a man, is for one of two men who are engaged on precisely similar pieces of work to make extraordinary exertions in order to work down the other man. This is sometimes done simply to see what kind of a workman a new man may be, but often with the much less creditable motive of injuring a fellow workman in the estimation of an employer.

THE GRAY MARE IS THE BETTER HORSE. *See* GRAY-MARE.

HORSE FOAL OF AN ACORN, *subs. phr.* (old).—1. The gallows. For synonyms, *see* TRIPLE-TREE.

1760-61. SMOLLETT, *Sir L. Greaves*, ch. viii. I believe as how 'tis no horse, but a devil incarnate; and yet I've been worse mounted, that I have—I'd like to have rid a HORSE THAT WAS FOAL OF AN ACORN (*i.e.*, he had nearly met with the fate of Absalom).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s v.

1827. LYTTON, *Pelham*, ch. lxxvii. The cove . . . is as pretty a Tyburn blossom as ever was brought up to ride a HORSE FOAL BY AN ACORN.

1839. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard* [1889], p. 8. . . . As to this little fellow . . . he shall never mount A HORSE FOAL BY AN ACORN, if I can help it.

2. (military).—The triangles or crossed halberds under which soldiers were flogged.

OLD- (or SALT-) HORSE, *subs.* (nautical). Salt beef. Also JUNK and SALT-JUNK.

1889. *Chambers's Journal*, 3 Aug., 495. Mr. Clark Russell declares that SALT-HORSE works out of the pores, and contributes to that mahogany complexion common to sailors, which is often mistakenly attributed to rum and weather.

ONE-HORSE, *adj.* (American). Comparatively small, insignificant, or unimportant.

1858. *Washington Evening Star*. On Friday last, the engineer of a fast train was arrested by the authorities of a ONE-HORSE town in Dauphin County, Pa., for running through the borough at a greater rate of speed than is allowed by their ordinances.

1871. DE VERE, *Americanisms*, p. 221. The indignant settler who has been ill-treated, as he fancies, in court, denounces his attorney as a 'miserable, ONE-HORSE lawyer,' and the Yankee newly arrived in England does not hesitate to declare that 'Liverpool is a poor ONE-HORSE kind of a place,' a term applied by Mark Twain to no less a city than Rome itself; and a witty clergyman of Boston inveighed once bitterly against 'timid, sneaking, ONE-HORSE oaths, as infinitely worse than a good, round, thundering outburst.

1891. *National Review*, Sep., p. 127. Mr. Marion Crawford's *Witch of Prague* (Macmillan & Co.) is, as his compatriots would say, rather a ONE-HORSE witch.

TO BE HORSED, *verb. phr.* (old).—To be flogged [from the wooden-horse used as a flogging-stool]; to take on one's back as for a flogging.



1678. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, pt. III., c. 1. The spirit HORS'D him like a sack Upon the vehicle his back.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. xvii. Our unfortunate hero was publicly HORSED, *in terrorem* of all whom it might concern.

1857. THACKERAY, *Virginians*, ch. v. Serjeants, school-masters, slave-overseers, used the cane freely. Our little boys had been HORSED many a day by Mr. Dempster.

1881. *Notes and Queries*, 1 Jan., p. 18. I got well HORSED for such a breach of discipline.

TO FALL AWAY FROM A HORSE-LOAD TO A CARTLOAD, *verb. phr.* (old).—*See* quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HORSEPLAY. FALLEN AWAY FROM A HORSELOAD TO A CARTLOAD, spoken ironically of one considerably improved in flesh on a sudden.

TO FLOG THE DEAD HORSE.—*See* DEAD-HORSE and HORSE, *verb.* sense 2.

TO PUT THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To begin at the wrong end; to set things hind-side before.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HORSE.

TO PUT THE SADDLE ON THE RIGHT HORSE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To apportion accurately.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HORSE. SET THE SADDLE ON THE RIGHT HORSE, lay the Blame where the Fault is.

TO RIDE ON A HORSE WITH (or BAYARD OF) TEN TOES, *verb. phr.* (common).—To walk; to use the MARROWBONE-STAGE. *Cf.*, SHANKS'S MARE.

1606. BRETON, *Good and Badde*, p. 14. His trauell is the walke of the woful, and his HORSE BAYARD OF TEN TOES.

1662. FULLER, *Worthies, Somerset*, ii., 291. At last he [Coryat] undertook to travail into the East Indies by land, mounted on AN HORSE WITH TEN TOES.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. BAYARD.

AS GOOD AS A SHOULDER OF MUTTON TO A SICK HORSE, *phr.* (old).—Utterly worthless.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, ii., 1. Counsel to him is AS GOOD AS A SHOULDER OF MUTTON TO A SICK HORSE.

AS STRONG AS A HORSE, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Very strong; a general intensive.

HORSE AND HORSE, *adv. phr.* (American).—Neck and neck; even.

HORSEBREAKER (or PRETTY HORSEBREAKER), *subs.* (colloquial).—A woman (c. 1860), hired to ride in the park; hence, a riding courtesan. *See* also quot. 1864. For synonyms, *see* BAR-RACK-HACK and TART.

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. iv., p. 33 (1873). Kate Mellor was a HORSEBREAKER, a *bonâ fide* horsebreaker; one who curbed colts, and 'took it out of' kickers and rears.

1865. *Public Opinion*, 30 Sep. These *demi-monde* people, anonyms, HORSEBREAKERS, *hetairæ* . . . are by degrees pushing their way into society.

HORSE-BUSS, *subs.* (old).—A loud-sounding kiss; a bite.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

HORSE-CAPPER (-COPER, -COSER, -COURSER, or -CHANTER), *subs.* (common).—A dealer in worthless or 'faked' horses. [Originally good English. To COPE = to barter.] *See* CHANTER. Hence HORSE-COPING and HORSE-DUFFING.

1616. OVERBURY, *Characters* (RIMBAULT, 9th ed., 1856, p. 120). An arrant HORSE-COURSER hath the trick to blow up horseflesh as the butcher does veal.

d. 1680. BUTLER, *Remains* (1759), ii., 458. A HORSE-COURSER is one that bath read horses, and understands all the virtues and vices of the whole species by being conversant with them, and how to take the best advantage of both.

1742-4. NORTH, *Life of the Lord Keeper* i., 271. There were HORSE-COPERS among them.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HORSE-COSER, vulgarly and corruptly pronounced horse courser, a dealer in horses. The verb to cose, was used by the Scots, in the sense of bartering or exchanging.

1863. *Sporting Life*, 29 Apr., p. 4, col. 3. COPERS and Chaunters are now in full feather.

1864. *London Review*, 18 June, p. 643. Amongst the mysteries of horse-flesh is the noble science of coping, and its practitioners the HORSE-COPERS.

1874. G. A. LAWRENCE, *Hagarene*, ch. ii. He had lived somewhat precariously by his wits; eking out the scanty allowance wrung from his miserly old sire, by betting and HORSE-COPING on a small scale.

1884. *Daily News*, 23 Aug., p. 4, c. 7. The most accomplished gipsy COPERS, if they are not belied, are not satisfied with merely doing up an unsound horse and selling him as a sound one, but frequently steal outright the subject of their scientific and often lucrative experiments.

1888. ROLF BOLDEWOOD. *Robbery Under Arms*, ch. i. Poaching must be something like cattle and HORSE-DUFFING.

1889. *Answers*, 27 July, p. 141, c. 1. Allow me to expose some more tricks of HORSE COPERS.

1893. *National Observer*, 5 Aug., p. 291, col. 1. A voracious HORSE-COPER is a monster which the world ne'er saw.

**HORSE-COLLAR**, *subs.* (venery).—1. The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

2. (tailors').—An extremely long and wide collar.

3. (old).—A halter. To DIE IN A HORSE'S NIGHTCAP=to be hanged. See LADDER.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS.—Anodyne necklace; Bridport dagger; choker; hempen cravat; hempen elixir; horse's neckcloth;

horse's necklace; neck-squeezer; neckweed; squeezer; St. Andrew's lace; Sir Tristram's knot; tight cravat; Tyburn tiffany; Tyburn tippet; widow.

FRENCH SYNONYM.—*La cravate de chanvre*.

1593. *Bacchus' Bountie* in *Harl. Misc.* (ed. Park), ii., 304. Yea, his very head so heave as if it had bene harness'd in an HORSE-NIGHTCAP.

1608. *Penniles Parliament* in *Harl. Misc.* (ed. Park), i., 181. And those that clip that they should not, shall have a HORSE NIGHT-CAP for their labour.

1681. *Dialogue on Oxford Parliament* (*Harl. Misc.*, ii., 125.). He better deserves to go up Holbourn in a wooden chariot, and have a HORSE NIGHT-CAP put on at the farther end.

1883. *Echo*, 25 Jan., p. 2, c. 4. Even an attempt is made to lighten the horror of the climax of a criminal career, by speaking of dying in a HORSE'S NIGHT-CAP, i.e., a halter.

**HORSE-EDITOR**, *subs.* (American journalists').—A sporting editor. HORSE-COPY=sporting news.

**HORSEFLESH**, See DEAD HORSE and HORSE, *verb.* sense 2.

**HORSE-GODMOTHER**, *subs.* (old).—A strapping masculine woman; a virago. Fr., *une femme hom-masse*.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

d. 1819. WOLCOT, *Wks.* In woman angel sweetness let me see No galloping HORSE-GODMOTHER for me.

1838. SELBY, *Jacques Strop*, iii., 1. What a couple of HORSE-GODMOTHERS.

1846-8. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*, ii., ch. 4. How do, my dear? Come to see the old man, hay? Gad—you've a pretty face, too. You ain't like that old HORSE-GODMOTHER, your mother.

**HORSE-LATITUDES**, *subs.* (nautical).—A space in the Atlantic, north of the trade-winds, where the winds are baffling.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 137. The winds even north of the rains and HORSE-LATITUDES were in a sense to be reckoned on.

**HORSE-LAUGH**, *subs.* (colloquial).

—A loud, noisy laugh; a guffaw.

1738. POPE, *Ep. to Satires*, i., 38. A HORSELAUGH, if you please, at honesty.

**HORSE-LEECH**, *subs.* (colloquial).

—1. An extortioner; a miser.

2. (venery).—Anything insatiable. Also a whore.

1597. HALL, *Satires*, iv., 5. An HORSE-LEECH, barren wench, or gaping grave.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii., 1. You are one of those HORSE-LEECHES that gave out I was dead in Turnbull Street.

3. (old).—A horse-doctor; also a quack.

1594. NASHE, *Terrors of the Night* (GROSART, iii., 250). Whereas his HORSE-LEECH . . . will give a man twenty guineas in one.

1597. HALL, *Satires*, ii., 4. No HORSE-LEECH but will look for larger fee.

**HORSE-MARINES**, *subs.* (common).

—A mythical corps, very commonly cited in jokes and quizzies on the innocent. [THE JOLLIES (*q.v.*) or Royal Marines, being ignorant of seamanship, have always been the butt of blue-jackets.] TELL THAT TO THE MARINES (or HORSE-MARINES) THE SAILORS WON'T BELIEVE IT = a rejoinder to an attempt at imposition or credulity. Often amplified with WHEN THEY'RE RIDING AT ANCHOR. See also BINGHAM'S DANDIES.

1825. SCOTT, *St. Ronan's Well*, ch. xxi. 'Come, none of your quizzing, my old buck,' said Sir Bingo—'what the devil has a ship to do with horse's furniture?—Do you think we belong to the HORSE-MARINES?'

c. 1870. *Broadside Ballad*, 'Captain Jinks.' I'm Captain Jinks of the HORSE-MARINES.

1886. STEPHENS and YARDLEY, *Little Jack Sheppard*, p. 3. They may tell that yarn to the HORSE MARINES, For we bean't such fools as we looks.

1886. *Tinsley's Mag.*, Apr., 321. Owing to a singular deviation from the ordinary functions of cavalry, the 17th Lancers were once christened the HORSE MARINES.

1892. *Wops the Waif* [Horner's Penny Stories], ch. i., p. 1. Oh, nothink, eh! You'd better tell that to the HOSS MARINES; I've lived a sight too long in Shoreditch to take that in.

**HORSE-MILLINER**, *subs.* (common).

—1. A dandy trooper.

1778. CHATTERTON, *Ballads of Charity*, ii., 113. The trammels of his palfrey pleased his sight, For the HORSE-MILLINER his head with roses dight.

1813. SCOTT, *Bridal of Triermain*, ii., 3. One comes in foreign trashery Of tinkling chain and spur, A walking haberdashery Of feathers, lace and fur; In Rowley's antiquated phrase, HORSE-MILLINER of modern days.

2. (old).—A saddler and harness-maker.

1818. SCOTT, *Heart of Midlothian*, xi. In my wretched occupation of a saddler, HORSE-MILLINER, and harness maker, we are out unconscionable sums just for barked hides and leather.

**HORSE-NAILS**, *subs.* (common).—1.

Money. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

TO FEED ON HORSE-NAILS, *verb. phr.* (cribbage).—So to play as not so much to advance your own score as to keep down your opponent's.

TO KNOCK INTO HORSE-NAILS, *verb. phr.* (common).—To knock to pieces; to be absolutely victorious.



**HORSE-NIGHTCAP**, *subs.* (old).—  
See HORSE'S-COLLAR.

**HORSE-POX**, *subs.* (old).—A superlative of POX (*q.v.*). Used in adjuration. *E.g.*, A HORSE-POX on you! Ay, with a HORSE-POX, etc.

**HORSE-PROTESTANT**, *subs.* (tailors').—  
—A churchman.

**HORSE-SENSE**, *subs.* (American).—  
Sound and practical judgment.

1893. LIPPINCOT, Mar., p. 260. A round bullet head, not very full of brains, perhaps, yet reputed to be fairly stocked with what is termed HORSE sense.

**HORSES-AND-MARES**. TO PLAY AT HORSES-AND-MARES. *verb. phr.* (schoolboys').—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

**HORSE'S-HEAD**, *subs.* (cobblers').—The boot-sole, heel, and what is left of the front after the back and part of the front have been used TO FOX (*q.v.*) other boots withal.

**HORSE-SHOE**, *subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. [In German, *Sie hat ein Hufeisen verloren* (of women)=she has been seduced, *i.e.*, she has lost a horse-shoe.]

**HORSE'S-MEAL**, *subs.* (old).—Meat without drink.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HORSE-SOVEREIGN**, *subs.* (common).—A twenty-shilling piece with Pistrucci's effigies of St. George and the Dragon.

1871. *London Figaro*, 26 Jan. A number of those coins, sometimes known as HORSE SOVEREIGNS, are to be issued.

**HORTUS**, *subs.* (venery).—See quot. [*Cf.*, GARDEN.] For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

1728 BAILEY, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v. HORTUS [by some writers] the privy parts of a woman.

**HOSE**. IN MY OTHER HOSE, *subs. phr.* (old). A qualification of refusal or disbelief; IN A HORN (*q.v.*); OVER THE LEFT (*q.v.*).

1598. FLORIO. *A Worlde of Wordes*, s.v. *Zoccoli Zoccoli*, tushtush, awaie, in faith sir no, yea in my OTHER HOSE.

**HOSS**. See HORSE.

**HOSS-FLY** (or OLD HOSS-FLY), *subs.* (American).—A familiar address; *cf.*, HORSE, *subs.* sense 3.

**H O S T**. TO RECKON WITHOUT ONE'S HOST, *verb. phr.* (old : now recognised).—To blunder.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOST. TO RECKON WITHOUT ONE'S HOST, or count your Chickens before they are Hatched.

MINE HOST, *subs. phr.* (colloquial).—A taverner.

**HOSTELER**, *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HOSTELER, *i.e.*, oat stealer

**HOT**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—  
1. A mellay at football.

2. (*Ibid.*)—A crowd.

1878. ADAMS, *Wykehamica*, p. 367. It would be replaced and a fresh HOT formed.

*Adj.* (colloquial).—1. Of persons : sexually excitable ; lecherous ; ON HEAT (*q.v.*) ; RANDY (*q.v.*). Of things (as books) : obscene ; BLUE (*q.v.*) ; HIGH-KILTED (*q.v.*) ; HOT MEMBER (*q.v.*) = a male or female debauchee ; or (as in sense 2), a man or woman contemptuous of decorum.

HOT AS THEY MAKE THEM = exceedingly amorous or reckless.  
HOT-BLOODED = lecherous : as (in *Merry Wives*, v., 5) 'the HOT-BLOODED gods assist me.'  
HOT-HOUSE (*q.v.*) = a brothel.

1383. CHAUCER, *Canterbury Tales*. Prologue to *Canterbury Tales*, lines 97 and 98. So hote he lovede, that by nightertale, He sleep no more than doth a nightyngale.

1596. BEN JONSON, *Every Man in his Humour*, iv., 8. Dost thou not shame, When all thy powers in chastity are spent, To have a mind so HOT.

1598. SHAKSPEARE, i *Henry IV.*, i., 2. A fair HOT wench in flame-coloured taffeta.

1599. H. PORTER, *Two Angry Women of Abingdon* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 354. Are ye so HOT, with a pox? Would ye kiss my mistress?

1605. JONSON, *Volpone*, iii., 6. I am now as fresh, As HOT, as high, and in as jovial plight As when in that so celebrated scene At recitation of our comedy For entertainment of the great Valois, I acted young Antinous.

1608. SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii., 11. Besides what HOTTER hours, Unregistered in vulgar fame you have Luxuriously picked out.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, ii., 1. The whelp was HOT and eager.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, v., 8. If either you esteem my friendship or your own safety, come not near that house—that corner house—that HOT brothel.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Relapse*, iii., 5. Young men are HOT, I know, but they don't boil over at that rate.

1719. DUFFRY, *Pills*, etc., iv., 123. He laughs to see the girls so HOT.

1892. MILLIKEN, *Arry Ballads*, p. 37. As most of our plays are now cribbed from the French, wy they're all pooty HOT.

2. (colloquial).—Careless of decorum; boisterous; utterly reckless and abandoned.

1888. J. RUNCIMAN, *The Chequers*, p. 187. You're a RED-HOT MEMBER!

3. (thieves').—Well known to the police; dangerous; uncomfortable; *e.g.*, TO MAKE IT HOT FOR ONE.

1830. BUCKSTONE, *Wreck Ashore*, i., 4. *Mil.* This place is now too HOT for me, captain. Bills overdue, and bailiffs in full chase, have driven me to a hasty leave of my home.

1841. *Tait's Edinburgh Mag.*, viii., 217. Finding all too HOT to hold him.

1859. MATSELL, *Vocabulum*, s.v. HOT. The cove had better move his beaters into Dewsville, it is too HOT for him here.

1882. *Evening Standard*, 3 Oct., p. 5, c. 4. The Constable added that at the station the Prisoner told him that if he did not make it too HOT he would give him £5.

1888. *Tit Bits*, 24 Mar., 373. The HOTTEST suburb of London during Jubilee year was supposed to be Ealing.

1890. MARRIOTT-WATSON, *Broken Billy* (in *Under the Gum-tree*, p. 31). With a few pals, almost as brutal as himself, he made the place pretty HOT from time to time.

1891. *Morning Advertiser*, 26 Mar., p. 2, col. 4. When Baker was arrested he asked Detective-sergeant Gold not to make it too HOT for them, and tried to induce the officer to receive a sovereign.

1891. J. NEWMAN, *Scampering Tricks*, p. 36. You'll find they will make it HOT for you.

4. (colloquial).—See quot. 1690. Also violent; sharp; severe.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOT, exceeding Passionate.

1886. R. L. STEVENSON, *Kidnapped*, p. 167. 'Well,' said he, 'yon was a HOT burst, David.'

1893. EMERSON, *Signor Lipppo*, ch. xvi. I started life in a training stable, and a HOT life it was for a boy.

5. (venery).—Infected; venereally diseased.

6. (colloquial).—Alive; vehement; instant.

1864. BROWNING, *Dramatic Romances* (ed. 1879, iv., 180), *The Italian in England*. 'Breathed HOT and instant on my train.

*Verb* (Winchester College).—To crowd; to mob.

TO GIVE (GET, OR CATCH) IT HOT, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To thrash or reprove soundly; to be severely beaten or taken to task.

1859. *Fast Life*, p. 54. The craters, of course, CAUGHT IT HOT, and many had the sack.

1872. *Figaro*, 22 June. The German Emperor, Bismarck, and Earl Granville also GOT IT, but not quite so HOTLY.

1877. *Five Years' Penal Servitude*, ch. iv., p. 887. A young man who . . . had been guilty of bigamy, and to such a degree that he GOT IT HOT for such a crime—five years.

1892. ANSTEV, *Model Music-Hall*, 32. She spotted me in 'alf a jiff, and chaffed me precious HOT.

LIKE A CAT ON HOT BRICKS, *phr.* (colloquial).—Uncomfortable; restive.

1886. J. S. WINTER, *Army Society*, ch. xvi. Lady Mainwaring looked like an eel in a frying-pan, or, most of anything perhaps, LIKE A CAT ON HOT BRICKS.

HOT WITH, *phr.* (common).—Spirits with hot water and sugar. See CIDER AND, and COLD WITHOUT.

HOT-ARSED, *adj. phr.* (venery).—Excessively lewd. [Of women only.] *Cf.* BITER.

HOT-BEEF. TO GIVE HOT-BEEF, *verb. phr.* (thieves' rhyming).—To cry 'Stop thief.' Also BEEF (*q.v.*).

1879. J. W. HORSLEY, in *Macm. Mag.*, xl., 506. He followed, giving me HOT BEEF (calling 'Stop thief').

HOT-CAKES. TO GO OFF LIKE HOT-CAKES, *verb. phr.* (common).—To sell readily; to be in good demand.

1889. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 11 Oct., p. 6, c. 1. Sold at one penny retail they often GO OFF LIKE HOT CAKES.

1893. EMERSON, *Signor Lippo*, ch. xii. It went off LIKE HOT CAKES.

HOT - FOOT, *adv.* (colloquial).—Instant in pursuit.

HOTCH-POTCH, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—Amedley; a HODGE-PODGE (*q.v.*).

1597. HALL, *Satires*, i., 3. A goodly HOTCH-POTCH when vile russetings are matched with monarchs and mighty kings.

1606. *Return from Parnassus*, iv., 2. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 183). This word, HOTCH-POTCH in English is a pudding; for in such a pudding is commonly not one thing only, but one thing with another.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crw.*, s.v. HOTCH-POTCH, an Oglio, or Medly of several Meats in one Dish.

c. 1709. W. KING, *Art of Cookery*, ix. (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, ix., 259). The first delighting in HODGE-PODGE, gallimaufry, forced meats . . . and salmagundy.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1728. PATRICK WALKER, *Alexander Peden*, 'Postscript' (ed. 1827, i., 128). A HOTCH-POTCH or bagful of Arian, Arminian, Socinian, Pelagian, etc.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 17 Oct., p. 2, c. 1. Both are a sort of HOTCHPOTCH of songs, dances, and extravaganzas.

HOT-COPPERS, *subs.* (common).—The fever and parched throat, or MOUTH (*q.v.*), attending a debauch. See COOL ONE'S COPPER.

1830. EGAN, *Finish to Life in London*, 156. The 'uncommonly big gentleman' in spite of swallowing oceans of soda-water, declared his COPPER to be so HOT that he thought all the water in the sea could not reduce his thirst!

1841. *Punch*, vol. I., p. 244. 'Oh blow your physiology!' says Rapp. 'You mean to say you've got a HOT COPPER—so have I. Send for the precious balm and then fire away.'

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. xliii. 'Nothing like that beer,' he remarked 'when the COPPERS are HOT.'

1864. *Comic Almanack*, p. 63. 'Cold Cream Internally.' Cold cream is an excellent remedy for HOT COPPERS.



1892. HUME NISBET, *Bushranger's Sweetheart*, p. 134. He came . . . as happy-looking, and lively as if no such thing as HOT COPPERS existed.

**HOTEL** (also CUPID'S HOTEL and CUPID'S ARMS).—*subs.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. *Cf.*, COCK INN. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

**HOTEL BARBERING**, *subs.* (common).—Bilking.

1892. *Daily Chronicle*, 28 Mar., p. 5. c. 7. The inference is now fairly admissible that he may possibly have divided his time between polygamous pursuits and HOTEL BARBERING exploits.

**HOTEL WARMING-PAN**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A chambermaid. Also WARMING-PAN (*v.*). *Fr.*, *une limogère*.

**HOT-FLANNEL** (or FLANNEL), *subs.* (old).—Gin and beer, with nutmeg, sugar, etc., made hot.

1789. GEO. PARKER, *Life's Painter*, p. 144. A mixed kind of liquor . . . when drank in a morning it is called FLANNEL.

1858. A. MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*, bk. III., ch. iii., p. 269. A jug of what he termed HOT FLANNEL for three—a mixture of gin, beer, and eggs.

**HOT-HOUSE**, *subs.* (old).—A brothel. Also (*see* quot. 1616), a public bath. For synonyms, *see* NANNY-SHOP.

1596. NASHE, *Have with You to Saffron Walden* (GROSART, iii., 106). Any HOT-HOUSE or bawdy-house of them all.

1599. JONSON, *Every Man out of His Humour*, iv., 4. Let a man sweat once a week in a HOT-HOUSE, and be well rubbed and frothed with a plump juicy wench and clean linen.

1603. SHAKESPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, ii., 1. Now she professes a HOT-HOUSE, which is a very ill house too.

1606. *The Return from Parnassus*, i., 2 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 115). He cannot swagger it well in a tavern, nor domineer in a HOT-HOUSE.

1616. JONSON, *Epigrams*, 'On the New HOT-HOUSE.' Where lately harboured many a famous whore, A purging bill now fixed upon the door Tells you it is a HOT-HOUSE: So it may, And still be a whore-house. They're synonyma.

1699. GARTH, *The Dispensary*, ii., line 157. A HOT-HOUSE he prefers to Julia's arms.

**HOT MEAT** (or BEEF or MUTTON), *subs. phr.* (venery).—*See* BIT.

**HOT-MEMBER** (or HOT 'UN).—*See* WARM MEMBER.

**HOT-MILK**, *subs.* (venery).—The semen. For synonyms, *see* CREAM.

**HOT-PLACE**, *subs.* (colloquial).—Hell. For synonyms, *see* TROPICAL CLIMATE.

1891. F. H. GROOME, *Blackwood*, Mar., p. 320. A letter from her son in Hull, told the curate that 'that did give me a tarn at fust, for I thought that come from the HOT PLACE.'

**HOT-POT**, *subs.* (old).—Ale and brandy made hot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1788. G. C. STEVENS, *Adv. of a Speculist*, ii., 56. A watchman and an old Blind Woman, troubled with the palsy, drinking HOT-POT together.

**HOT-POTATO**. TO DROP LIKE A HOT POTATO, *verb. phr.* (common).—To abandon (a pursuit, a person, a thing) with alacrity.

**HOT-PUDDING**. TO HAVE A HOT-PUDDING FOR SUPPER, *verb. phr.* (venery).—To copulate. Of women only. [PUDDING (Durfey) = the *penis*]. For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE.

**HOT-STOMACH.** SO HOT A STOMACH AS TO BURN THE CLOTHES OFF HIS BACK, *phr.* (old).—Said of one who pawns his clothes for drink.—*Lex. Bal.*

**HOTTENTOT**, *subs.* (East-end). *See* quot.

1880. G. R. SIMS, *How the Poor Live*, ch. x. The cry of HOTTENTOTS went round. 'Hottentots' is the playful way in this district of designating a stranger, that is to say, a stranger come from the West.

2. (common).—A fool. For synonyms, *see* BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

**HOT-TIGER**, *subs.* (Oxford Univ.).—Hot-spiced ale and sherry.—HOTTEN.

**HOT-WATER.** TO BE IN HOT-WATER, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To be in trouble, in difficulties, or worried.

1846. *Punch's Almanack*, 29 Nov. The *Times* first printed by steam, 1814, and has kept the country in HOT WATER ever since.

1864. MARK LEMON, *Fest book*, p. 238. Lord Allen, in conversation with Rogers, the poet, observed: 'I never put my razor into hot water, as I find it injures the temper of the blade.' 'No doubt of it,' replied Rogers; 'show me the blade that is *not out of temper* when plunged into HOT WATER.'

**HOUND**, *subs.* (Cambridge Univ.).—1. *See* quot.

1879. E. WALFORD, in *N. and Q.*, 5 S., xii., 88. In the *Anecdotes of Bowyer* . . . we are told that a HOUND of King's College, Cambridge, is an undergraduate not on the foundation, nearly the same as a 'sizar.'

2. (colloquial). A mean, contemptible fellow; a scoundrel; a filthy sneak.

**HOUNSLOW-HEATH**, *subs.* (rhyming).—The teeth. For synonyms, *see* GRINDERS. Also HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.

1887. DAGONET in *Referee*, 7 Nov., p. 7, c. 3. She'd a Grecian 'I suppose,' And of HAMPSTEAD HEATH two rows.

**HOURI OF FLEET-STREET**, *subs. phr.* (common).—A prostitute. For synonyms, *see* BARRACK-HACK and TART.

**HOUSE**, *subs.* (theatrical).—1. An audience. TO BRING DOWN THE HOUSE=to elicit a general burst of applause. Fr., *avoir sa côtelette; boire du lait*.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. HOUSE. With them (the players) it means Covent-garden or Drury-lane, or indeed any other theatre. 'A full-house' and 'half-a-house' indicate the state of the receipts or number of the audience.

1870. *Athenaeum*, 13 Aug., p. 120. 'Letter of J. O. Halliwell.' It is now certain that Shakespeare was never proprietor of either (the Globe or Blackfriars) theatre. His sole interest in them consisted in a participation, as an actor in the receipts of what is called the HOUSE.

1873. *Home News*, 24 Jan. I exerted myself, not for praise of that well-dressed mob they called THE HOUSE, but for very love of the congenial sport.

1892. SYDNEY WATSON, *Wops the Waif*, ch. iii., p. 4. There was tremendous enthusiasm this evening. Every scene was uproariously applauded, and at the climax the whole HOUSE rose and cheered and encored with tumultuous feeling.

THE HOUSE (colloquial).—(1) The Stock Exchange; (2) The House of Commons; (3) Christ Church, Oxford.

HOUSE UNDER THE HILL, *subs. phr.* (venery).—The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, *see* MONOSYLLABLE.

HOUSE (OR APARTMENTS) TO LET, *subs. phr.* (common).—A widow.—*Lex. Bal.* Also BILL-OF-SALE and MAN-TRAP.

FATHER OF THE HOUSE, *subs. phr.* (Parliamentary).—The oldest elected member. See BABE.

HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT, *subs. phr.* (common).—A prison. For synonyms, see CAGE.

LIKE A HOUSE ON FIRE, *adv. phr.* (common).—Quickly; with energy. See LIKE.

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, ii., 85. I'm getting on LIKE a reglar HOUSE ON FIRE.

SAFE AS HOUSES, *adv. phr.* (common).—Perfectly safe.

1864. E. YATES, *Broken to Harness*, ch. xxxii., p. 361 (1873). I have the means of doing that, as SAFE AS HOUSES.

1874. T. HARDY, *Far from the Madding Crowd*, ch. lvii. 'The clothes will floor us as SAFE AS HOUSES,' said Coggan.

1886. GRANT ALLEN, *In All Shades*, ch. i. Why, of course, then, that's the explanation of it—as SAFE AS HOUSES, you may depend upon it.

1890. GRANT ALLEN, *Tents of Shem*, ch. xxviii. You may make your forgery itself as SAFE AS HOUSES.

HOUSE-BIT (or -KEEPER, or -PIECE), *subs.* (colloquial).—A servant-mistress.

HOUSE-DOVE, *subs.* (old).—A stay-at-home.

HOUSEHOLD-BRIGADE. TO JOIN THE HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE, *verb. phr.* (common).—To marry. For synonyms, see SPLICE.

1881. *Home Tidings*, April, p. 42, c. i. Jem Ryan joined the HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE on Easter Monday, E. New acting as best man.

HOUSE OF CIVIL RECEPTION, *subs. phr.* (old).—A brothel. For synonyms, see NANNY-SHOP.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

HOUSE OF COMMONS (or HOUSE OF OFFICE), *subs. phr.* (old).—A W.C. For synonyms, see MRS. JONES.

1611. CHAPMAN, *May-Day*, iv., 2. No room save you turn out my wife's coal-house, and her other HOUSE OF OFFICE attached to it, reserved for her and me sometimes, and will you use it being a stranger?

1748. SMOLLETT, *Roderick Random*, c. xiii. Taking the candle in his hand, which he had left burning for the purpose, he went down to the HOUSE OF OFFICE.

d. 1780. ROBERTSON OF Struan, *Poems*, 83. So to a HOUSE OF OFFICE straight a school-boy does repair, To ease his postern of its weight.

HOUSE-TAILOR, *sub.* (old).—An upholsterer.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HOUSE-TAILERS, Upholsterers.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

HOUSEWIFE (or HUSWIFE, or HUSSY), *subs.* (colloquial).—1. Primarily, a house-keeper. Hence (a) a domestic servant; (b) a wanton or a gad-about wench; and (c) a comic endearment. Hence, too, HOUSEWIFERY, *subs.*, and HOUSEWIFE'S TRICKS = the habit of wantonness, the practice of men.

1508. *Gawain and Gologras*, 'Ballade.' (PINKERTON, *Scottish Poems*, 1792, iii.). A gude HUSY-WIFE ay rinnin in the toun.

1589. PUTTENHAM, *English Poesie*, 1589, ii., 16 (ed. ARBER, p. 148). Half lost for lack of a good HUSWIFE's looking to.

1600. *Look about You*, sc. 28 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 476). HUSWIFE, I'll have you whipped for slandering me.

1602. SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, i., 2. I hope to see some HOUSEWIFE take thee between her legs and spin it off.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, iii., 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 331). And if the HUSSY challenge more, Charm the maundering gossip with your roar. *Idem*, iii., 6. (p. 340). If I make not these haxters as hateful to our HUSSIES as ever they were to us, their husbands, set me up for a Jack-a-Lent.

1672. RAY, *Proverbs*, s.v., CAT. Cats eat what HUSSIES spare



\* 1673. WYCHERLY, *Gentleman Dancing Master*, iv., 1. What, HUSSY, would you not do as he'd have you?

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1694. CONGREVE, *Double Dealer*, iv., 3. When I was of your age, HUSSY, I would have held fifty to one I could have drawn my own picture.

1697. VANBRUGH, *Æsop*, i., 1. Hark you HUSSY. You can give yourself airs sometimes, you know you can.

1708. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *The Busy-Body*, iv., 2. I'll charm you, HOUSEWIFE. Here lies the charm that conjured this fellow in.

1708. PRIOR, *Poems* (Aldine ed. ii., 270), 'The Insatiable Priest.' To suppress all his carnal desires in their birth At all hours a lusty young HUSSY is near.

1720. SWIFT, *Poems*, 'A Portrait' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 448). A HOUSEWIFE in bed, at table a slattern.

1728. SWIFT, *Poems*, 'My Lady's Lamentations' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 460). Consider before You come to threescore, How the HUSSIES will flee When'er you appear.

1731. C. COFFEY, *The Devil to Pay*, i. Don't you know, HUSSY, that I am king in my own house.

1732. HENRY FIELDING, *The Mock Doctor*, i. Ay, HUSSY, a regular education; first at the charity-school where I learned to read.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, c. xviii. He supposed the object of his love was some paltry HUSSY, whom he had picked up when he was a boy at school.

d. 1764. LLOYD, *Poems* (1774), 'Chit-Chat.' Lud! I could beat the HUSSEY down, She's poured it all upon my gown.

1768. GOLDSMITH, *Good Natured Man*, ii. And you have but too well succeeded, you little HUSSY, you.

1771. SMOLLETT, *Humphrey Clinker* (ed. 1890, p. 43). And I have been twice in the bath with mistress and na'r a smock upon our backs, HUSSY.

1782. COWLEY, *Bold Stroke for a Husband*, i., 2. Don C. Now, HUSSY, what do you expect?

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1786. BURNS, *The Inventory*. Frae this time forth I do declare, I'se ne'er ride horse nor HIZZIE mair.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xxii. Say nothing of that, HOUSEWIFE, . . . or I will beat thee—beat thee with my staff.

1829. C. A. SOMERSET, *The Day After the Fair*, i. Oh, you HUSSY! so you were Madame Maypole!

1893. R. LE GALLIENNE, Intro. *Liber Amoris*, p. xlv. To think of poor Hazlitt gravely lavishing his choice Elizabethan quotations on the HUSSEY.

2. (venery). — The female *pudendum*. For synonyms, see MONOSYLLABLE.

HOUSEY, *adj.* (Christ's Hospital). — Belonging to the Hospital.

HOUSLE, *verb.* (Winchester College). — To hustle.

HOVELLER, *subs.* (nautical). — A beach-thief.

HOW. HOW CAME YOU SO? *phr.* (old). — Drunk. For synonyms, see DRINKS and SCREWED.

1824. T. HOOK, *Sayings and Doings*, 1st S. Merton, ch. xiii. Ould Mrs. Etherington was a right bad one; she used to be LORD, HOW COME YOU SO! every night, as regular as she went to bed.

HOW MUCH? *phr.* (common). — 'What do you say?' 'What do you mean?' What price? — a general request for explanations.

1852. F. E. SMEDLEY, *Lewis Arundel*, ch. xxxiv. 'Then my answer must mainly depend on the exact height of the principles.' 'On the HOW MUCH? inquired Frere, considerably mystified.

HOW ARE YOU OFF FOR SOAP, *phr.* (old). — A street catch.

1833. MARRYAT, *Peter Simple*, ch. iv. Well, Reefer, HOW ARE YOU OFF FOR SOAP?

1842. *Punch*, ii., 94, c. 2. Walker! HOW ARE YOU OFF FOR SOAP?

HOW THE BLAZES. See BLAZES.

HOW IS THAT FOR HIGH. See HIGH.

HOW'S YOUR POOR FEET, *phr.* (streets'). — A street catch, of no particular meaning. See STREET CRIES.

1863. *All the Year Round*, x., 180. How's YOUR POOR FEET? a year ago cheated half the natives of Cockaigne into the belief that they were gifted with a special genius for repartee.

1863. G. A. SALA, *Breakfast in Bed*, p. 163 (1854). But how would you like a screeching multitude, fifty thousand strong, and with not one of whom, to the best of your knowledge, you had even a bowing acquaintance, to vociferate in your track—in the public street, mind—'Ya-a-a-h! HOW ARE YOUR POOR FEET?'

1890. *Town and Country* (Sydney), 11 Jan., p. 19, c. 4. Henry Irving's revival of 'The Dead Heart' has revived a bit of slang. . . . When the play was brought out originally, where one of the characters says, 'My heart is dead, dead, dead!' a voice from the gallery nearly broke up the drama with HOW ARE YOUR POOR FEET? The phrase lived.

HOW'LL YOU HAVE IT, *phr.* (common).—An invitation to drink. Forsynonyms, *see* DRINKS.

HOW WE APPLES SWIM (sometimes amplified by QUOTH THE HORSE-TURD!) *verb. phr.* (old).—Said in derision of a parvenu; of a person in better company than he (or she) has any right to keep; or of a pretender to honour or credit he (or she) does not deserve.

1670. RAY, *Proverbs*, s.v.

1697-1764. HOGARTH (Works by J. Ireland and J. Nichols, London, 1873) III., p. 29. And even this, little as it is, gives him so much importance in his own eyes, that he assumes a consequential air, sets his arms akimbo, and strutting among the historical artists cries, HOW WE APPLES SWIM.

1860. *Cornhill Mag.* (D. Mallett, *Tyburn*), Dec., p. 737. While tumbling down the turbid stream, Lord, love us, HOW WE APPLES SWIM.

HOWARD'S GARBAGE, *subs. phr.* (military).—The Nineteenth Foot. Also GREEN HOWARDS.

HOWARD'S GREENS, *subs. phr.* (military).—The Twenty-fourth Foot. [From its facings and its Colonel's name, 1717-37.]

HOW-DO-YOU-DO, *subs.* (colloquial).—A 'to do'; a 'kettle of fish'; a 'pass.'

1835. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 1 S., ch. xxvi. Thinks I, here's a pretty HOW DO YOU DO; I'm in for i now, that's a fact.

HOWLER, *subs.* (common).—An unblushing falsehood; an enormous blunder; a serious accident; and so forth. TO COME (or GO) A HOWLER = to come to grief; to run amuck.

1885. *Daily News*, 16 May, p. 4, c. 8. Now, to speak respectfully of old scholars that were before us, the translators of the Bible constantly made what undergraduates call HOWLERS, or grievously impossible blunders.

1886. STEPHENS and YARDLEY, *Little Jack Sheppard*, p. 34. *Jack*. My dears, you're late. *Bess*. Our hansom came a HOWLER.

1888. *Indoor Paupers*, p. 24. As to how we are to spend the eight hours, or thereabouts, that remain after meals, church, and HOWLERS are disposed of, nobody, except ourselves and a few private friends outside, cares in the least.

1891. *Moonshine*, 14 Mar. Oh, I saw some piece in which a Johnnie smoked some cigarettes, and at last CAME A HOWLER, and wanted to commit suicide.

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 12 Sep., p. 2, c. 3. We wondered yesterday how many of our classical readers would see the HOWLER—or the joke.

HOWLING, *adj.* (common).—A general intensive. *E.g.*, HOWLING-SWELL = a man in the extreme of fashion; HOWLING-LIE = a gross falsehood; HOWLING-BAGS = trousers extravagant in cut or pattern; HOWLING-CAD, etc.

1865. G. A. SALA, *Trip to Barbary*, ch. vii. The hotel at Marseilles was full of our countrymen of the order known at Lane's and Limmer's as HOWLING SWELLS.

1887. *Household Words*, 11 June, 116. Let's hook it; that Jenny Morris is such an HOWLING SWELL that she won't wait for any one.

1889. *Licensed Vict. Gaz.*, 8 Feb. The Hon. Juggins was what is popularly known as a HOWLING SWELL.

1892. ANSTAY, *Model Music-Hall*, 146. And all the while your heart was given to a HOWLING CAD.

**HOXTER**, *subs.* (old).—1. An inside pocket.

1834. H. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood* bk. III., ch. v. No slour'd HOXTER my snipes could stay.

2. (Royal Military Academy).—Extra drill. [Corruption of extra.] Fr., *le bal*.

1887. BARRÈRE, *Argot and Slang*. The HOXTER consists in the painful ordeal of being compelled to turn out of bed at an early hour, and march up and down under the watchful eye of a corporal.

**HOYS**. See HOIST.

**HOYT**. See HOIT.

**HUB**, *subs.* (American).—1. Boston. Also, HUB OF THE UNIVERSE. [The description is Oliver Wendell Holmes's.] Since extended to other centres or chief cities (see quot. 1876).

1869. *Boston Herald*, Dec. He is to have a quintette club of amateurs with him, from THE HUB.

1872. *Daily Telegraph*, 4 July. Boston claims to be the HUB of the universe; but New York grandiloquently asserts itself to be the universal wheel itself.

1872. *Daily Telegraph*, Dec. The wealth of the HUB OF THE UNIVERSE, as Bostonians delight to call their city, is very great.

1878. *Daily News*, 18 Jan. Calcutta . . . swaggers as if it were the HUB OF THE UNIVERSE.

1888. *Boston Daily Globe*. The typical girl of THE HUB has been much written about in the novels of the period, and without doubt she is worth all the attention bestowed upon her.

2. (colloquial).—A husband. See HUBBY.

**HUBBLE-BUBBLE**, *subs.* (colloquial).

—1. See *quots.*

1748. F. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HUBBLE-BUBBLE (*s.*) a confused noise made by a talkative person, who speaks so quick, that it is difficult to understand what he says or means.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, *s.v.* HUBBLE-BUBBLE. Confusion. A HUBBLE-BUBBLE fellow, a man of confused ideas, or one thick of speech, whose words sound like water bubbling out of a bottle.

2. (common).—A hookah; a pipe by which the smoke is passed through water.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, *s.v.* HUBBLE-BUBBLE . . . Also an instrument used for smoking through water in the East Indies, called likewise a caloon and hooker.

1868. OUIDA, *Under Two Flags*, ch' xxii. The Moor, warmly grateful, was ever ready to give him a cup of coffee and a HUBBLE-BUBBLE in the stillness of his dwelling.

1887. *Field*, 15 Oct. Off I went down the ravine, and half a mile below came to Besan quietly smoking his HUBBLE-BUBBLE.

1891. W. C. RUSSELL, *Ocean Tragedy*, p. 130. A burning atmosphere sickly with the smell of the incense of the HUBBLE-BUBBLE, with a flavour of hot curry about.

**HUBBLE-DE-SHUFF**, *adv.* (old).—Confusedly.—*Lex. Bal.*

**HUBBUB**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—See *quots.*

d. 1639. ROBERT CAREY (Earl of Monmouth), *Memoirs*, 1759, p. 155. This made a great HUB-BUB in our Court.

1667. MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, ii., 951. A universal HUBBUB wild, Of stunning sounds.



1682. BUNYAN, *Holy War* (1893 ed. M. Peacock, p. 58). The conscience and understanding begin to receive conviction, and they set the soul in a HUBBUB.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUBBUB, a Noise in the Streets made by the Rabble.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUBBUB, a noise, riot, or disturbance.

1893. *Westminster Gaz.*, 8 Aug., p. 2, col. 1. An indescribable HUBBUB of showmen's, hawkers', and children's voices from near and far.

**HUBBY (or HUB)**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A husband.

1798. MORTON, *Secrets Worth Knowing*. Epilogue. The wife poor thing, at first so blithe and chubby, Scarce knows again her lover in her HUBBY.

1807. STEVENS, *Wks.*, p. 175. What could HUBBY do then, what could HUBBY do? But sympathy-struck, as she cry'd, he cry'd too.

1811. POOLE, *Hamlet Travestied*, ii., 3. Now, madam, this once was your HUBBY.

1883. *Referer*, 17 Apr., p. 3, c. 2. I did hear it whispered that her parents and guardians, or her horrified HUBBY, had turned the key on her.

**Huck**, *verb.* (old).—To chaffer; to bargain.

1577. HOLINSHEAD, *Description of England*, ed. 1807, i., 315. It was his custome likewise to saie, if anie man HUCKED hard with him about the price of a gelding: 'So God helpe me . . . either he did cost me so much,' or else, 'By Jesus I stole him.'

**HUCKLEBERRY**. ABOVE ONE'S HUCKLEBERRY (BEND, or HOOK), *adv. phr.* (American).—Beyond one's ability; out of one's reach. See BEND.

1848. J. F. COOPER, *The Oak Openings*. It would be ABOVE MY BEND to attempt telling you all we saw among the red skins.

1852. 'L'Allegro,' *As Good as a Comedy*, p. 61. Well, Squire Barry, you're a HUCKLEBERRY ABOVE MY PERSIMMON, but I reckon something can be done.

**HUCKLE-MY-BUTT**, *subs.* (old).—Beer, egg, and brandy made hot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1834. AINSWORTH, *Rookwood*, iii., 5. 'If that's a bowl of HUCKLE-MY-BUTT you are brewing, Sir William,' added he, addressing the knight of Malta, 'you may send me a jorum at your convenience.'

**HUCKSTER**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—1. A retailer of small goods; a pedlar.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUCKSTER, the Retailers of the Market, who Sell in the Market at second Hand.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUCKSTERS, itinerant retailers of provisions.

2. (old).—A mean trickster.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

IN HUCKSTER'S HANDS, *adv. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUCKSTERS . . . IN HUCKSTER'S HANDS, at a desperate Pass, or Condition, or in a fair way to be Lost.

**HUCKSUM** (also **HUCKLE**, or **HUCKLE-BONE**, or **HUCK-BONE**).—Thehip.

c. 1508. DUNBAR, *Flyting (Poems)*, ed. 1834, ii., 72). With HUCK-BONES harth and haw.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Elynor Rumynyn (Poems)*, 1843, i.). The bones of her HUCKELS Lyke as they were buckels.

1575. STILL, *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, i., 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iii., 180). For bursting of her HUCKLE-BONE, or breaking of her shin.

**HUDDLE**, *verb.* (venery).—To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

**HUE**, *verb.* (old).—See quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. The Cove was HUED in the Naskin, the Rogue was severely Lasht in Bride wel

1785. GROSE *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HUEY**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—A town or village.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. I., p. 231. 'Where do you stall to in the HUEY?' which, fairly translated, means, 'Where do you lodge in the town?'

**HUFF**, *subs.* (colloquial).—1. An outburst of temper; peevishness; offence at some real or imaginary wrong or slight. Hence, TO GET (or TAKE) THE HUFF=to fly into a passion.

1599. H. PORTER, *Two Angry Women of Abingdon* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, vii., 311). And as thou say'st to me, to him I said, But in a greater HUFF and hotter blood.

1676. ETHEREGE, *Man of Mode*, *Wks.* (1704), i., 190. Tax her with the next fop that comes Into my head, and in a HUFF march away.

1688. SHADWELL, *Sq. of Alsatia*, *Wks.* (1720), iv., 63. If you were not the brother to my dearest friend, I know what my honour would prompt me to [*walks in a HUFF*].

1700. FARQUHAR, *Constant Couple*, ii., 2. I offer'd her fifty guineas, and she was in her airs presently, and flew away in a HUFF.

1705-7. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. II., pt. iv., p. 26. I pay'd three Shillings, in a HUFF, For my half Pint of liquid Stuff.

1759-67. STERNE, *Tristram Shandy*, ch. xxix. He left off the study of projectiles in a kind of HUFF, and betook himself to the practical part of fortification only. *Idem.* ch. c. Can I? cried Susannah, shutting the door in a HUFF.

1769. CHATTERTON, *Poems*, 'Journal' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xv., 495). 'Sir,' quoth the Rector in a HUFF.

1777. SHERIDAN, *Tripto Scarborough*, i., 1. The lady not condescending to give me any serious reasons for having fooled me for a month, I left her in a HUFF.

1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, bk. II., ch. 16. What a HUFF you're at! I only axed a question.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. xx. He is as proud as Lucifer, he is always taking HUFF about one thing or the other.

1855. BROWNING, *Men and Women*, 'Fra Lippo Lippi' (Ed. 1864, p. 357). You'll not mistake an idle word Spoke in a HUFF by a poor monk?

1885. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 30. Already my goodness! he's TAKING THE HUFF.

1892. ANSTEV, *Model Music-Hall*, 37. Some parties in a HUFF rage At the plea for Female Suffrage.

2. (old).—A bully; a HECTOR (*q.v.*); a sharper. Also CAPTAIN HUFF.

1569. PRESTON, *Cambises* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, iv., 177). [Enter three ruffians, HUFF, Ruff, and Snuff.]

1680. COTTON, *Complete Gamester*, p. 333. HUFFS, hectors, setters, gills pads, biters, etc.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant Crew*, s.v.

1693. CONGREVE, *Old Bachelor*, iv., 9. Good, slovenly CAPTAIN HUFF, Bluffe (what is your hideous name?).

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

3. (common).—A dodge; a trick.

4. (draughts').—A term in the game of draughts; the penalty for not taking a piece.

5. (Winchester College).—See HUFF-CAP.

*Verb.* (colloquial). — 1. To bluster; to bounce; to swagger.

1607. *How a Man May Choose a Good Wife*, etc., iv., 3 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, ix., 78). A HUFFING wench! faith.

1630. TAYLOR, *Workes*. The smell is the senting bawd, that HUFFS and snuffs up and downe, and hath the game awayes in the winde. *Ibid.* One asked a HUFFING gallant why hee had not a looking-glasse in his chamber; he answered, he durst not, because hee was often angry, and then he look'd so terribly that he was fearefull to looke upon himselfe.

d. 1631. DONNE, *Satires*, iv. (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, v., 158). To th' HUFFING, braggart, puffed nobility

1643. RANDOLPH, *Muses Looking-Glasse*, i., 1. *Flowrd*. Iniquity abouteth, though pure zeal Teach, preach, HUFFE, puffs, and snaffe at it, yet still, Still it abouteth.

1673. WYCHERLEY, *Gentleman Dancing Master*, v., 1. How! my surly, HUFFING, jealous, senseless, saucy master.

1675. WYCHERLEY, *Country Wife*. 'Prologue.' Well, let the vain rash fop, by HUFFING so, Think to obtain the better terms of you.

1680. DRYDEN, *Prol. to Lee's Cæsar Borgia*, p. 29. So big you look, though claret you retrench, That, armed with bottled ale, you HUFF the French.

d. 1680. ROCHESTER, *Poems*, 'Woman's Honour' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, viii., 239). This HUFFING honour domineers In breasts when he alone has place.

1682. BUNYAN, *Holy War* (ed. M. Peacock, 1893, p. 72). He refused and HUFFED as well as he could, but in heart he was afraid.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUFF. TO HUFF AND DING, to bounce and swagger.

1690. *The Pagan Prince*. And the same threats and menaces of the palatine being carry'd to the marshal de Tonneure, notwithstanding all his former encomiums, Oh! quo he, the palatine's a young prince; give him leave to HUFF AND DING for his living; words break no bones: when all's done, 'tis the coach wheel, not the fly that raises the dust.

1699. ROBERT FRANCK, *Northern Memoirs* (quoted in *New Review*, Aug., 1893, p. 145). So HUFFED away.

1700. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *Perjured Husband*. 'Epilogue.' Let cowards cease to HUFF.

1705. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. 1, pt. iii., p. 14. And in their frenzy, HUFF and threaten With what sad stripes we shall be beaten.

1708. PRIOR, *Poems*, 'The Mice,' (Aldine ed. ii., 244, 50). One went to Holland where they HUFF folk, T'other to vend his wares in Suffolk.

1714. *Newest Academy of Compliments*. Pray neighbour, why d'ye look awry? You're grown a wondrous stranger; You HUFF, you pout, you walk about As tho' you'd burst with anger.

1719. DURFEY, *Pills*, etc., i., 283. Thus, thus I strut and HUFF. *Idem.*, i., 154. But when the new ones did stoop, The t'other as HUFFING would be. *Idem.*, v., 99. When Bullies leave HUFFING and Cowards their Trembling.

1725. SWIFT, *Poems*, 'A New Song' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 446). If he goes to the baker's the baker will HUFF, And twenty pence ask for a two-penny loaf.

d. 1742. SOMERVILLE, *Occasional Poems*, 'The Officious Messenger' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 206). Her ladyship began to HUFF.

1755. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. To anger; TO CHEEK (*q.v.*); to get angered.

1708. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *The Busy-Body*, iii., 4. Impossible, without he HUFFS the lady, and makes love to Sir Francis.

1835. MARRYAT, *Jacob Faithful*, ch. xlii. Upon this she HUFFS outright, and tells Tom he may go about his business, for she didn't care if she never sees him no more.

1839. W. H. AINSWORTH, *Jack Sheppard*, p. 133 (Ed. 1840). If they do, now and then, run away with a knocker, paint a sign, beat the watch, or HUFF a magistrate.

*Intj.* (obsolete). — See quotes. Also HUFFA and HUFFA-GAL-LANT. [Probably the oldest form of the word.]

c. 1510. RASTELL, *Four Elements* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, i., 20). With HUFFA GALLANT, tirl on the berry, And let the wide world wind.

c. 152(?) *Hick Scorner* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, i., 188). HUFF! HUFF! HUFF! who sent after me.

d. 1529. SKELTON, *Poems*, 'Against Garneſche' (DYCE, i., 118, and note ii., 181-2). HUF A GALANTE, Garneſche, loke on your comely ars.

TO STAND THE HUFF, *verb. phr.* (old). — To stand the reckoning. — *Lex. Bal.*

Also HUFFY = easily offended; HUFFED = annoyed; HUFFILY = testily; in a tantrum.



1825. NEAL, *Bro. Jonathan*, bk. II., ch. 15. A leetle on the HUFFY order, I guess! Aint you?

1852. H. B. STOWE, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, ch. xvi. I . . . actually was so cruel as to restrict him to one dozen of my cambric handkerchiefs. Dolph was particularly HUFFY about it, and I had to talk to him like a father to bring him round.

1853. LYTTON, *My Novel*, bk. I., ch. ix. Though the Squire was inclined to be very friendly to all his neighbours, he was, like most country gentlemen, rather easily HUFFED.

1873. MISS BROUGHTON, *Nancy*, ch. xxxvi. 'I have no doubt you would!' say I, turnin'g sharply and HUFFILY away.

1875. OUIDA, *Signa*, vol. II., ch. xx., p. 324. 'She is a stupid little mule,' thought the old woman, angrily. 'She feels nothing, she sees no greatness in it all—she is only good to grub amongst her cabbages.' And she went away HUFFED.

1885. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 31. HUFFED is he, eh? And who regards him?

**HUFF-CAP** (or **HUFF**), *subs.* (Old Cant: still in use at Winchester College).—I. Strong ale. ['From inducing people to set their caps in a bold and HUFFING style.'—NARES.]

1579. FULWELL, *Art of Flattery*. Commonly called HUFFCAP, it will make a man look as though he had seen the devil.

1586. HOLINSHED, *Description of England*. These men hale at HUFF-CAP till they be red as cockes, and little wiser than their combes.

1602. CAMPION, *English Poesy* (BULLEN, *Works*, 1889, p. 247). Hunks detests when HUFFCAP ale he tipples.

1614. GREENE, *Looking-Glass* [Dyce], p. 127. The ale is strong ale, 'tis HUFFCAP; I warrant you, 'twill make a man well.

1630. TAYLOR, *Wks.* And this is it, of ale-houses and innes, Wine-marchants vintners, brewers, who much wins By others losing, I say more or lesse, Who sale of HUFFCAP liquor doe professe.

1870. MANSFIELD, *School Life*, p. 180. Washed down by litations of HUFF.

1878. ADAMS, *Wykehamica*, s.v. HUFF, the strong ale brewed by the College.

2. (old).—A swaggering bully; a HECTOR (*q.v.*).

1596. NASHE, *Lenten Stuffe* (GROSART, *Works*, v., 306). The HUFF-CAPPE to drink in that house, thou shalt be sure of always.

1630. TAYLOR, *Wks.* But 'tis a maxime mortals cannot hinder, The doughty deeds of Wakefield's HUFFE-CAP Pinder Are not so pleasant as the faire Aurora, When Nimrod rudely plaid on his bandora.

1687. CLIFFORD, *Notes upon Dryden*, letter 2. Prethee tell me true, was not this HUFF-CAP once the Indian emperor, and at another time did not he call himself Maximine?

1706. FARQUHAR, *Recruiting Officer*, v., 6. You have made a fine speech good Captain HUFF-CAP.

*Adj.* (old). — Swaggering; blustering; rousing.

1597. HALL, *Satires*, i., 3. Graced with HUFF-CAP terms and thundering threats.

**HUFFER**, *subs.* (old).—A swaggerer.

1682. BANKS, *Vertue Betrayed*, Prol. lines 23-4. Welcome mask-teazer, peevish gamster, HUFFER: All fools, but politicians, we can suffer.

1770. LORD HAILES, *Ancient Scottish Poetry*, note on 'Seven Deadly Sins,' line 34. HUFFERS (or threateners), boasters, and they who pick quarrels.

**HUFFLE**, *verb.* (venery).—I. TO BAG-PIPE (*q.v.*).

2. (colloquial).—To shift; to hesitate; to waver.

**HUFF-SNUFF**, *subs.* (old).—A person apt to take offence.

1592. NASHE, *Strange News*, etc. (GROSART, *Works* ii., 184). Gabriel HUFFE-SNUFFE Knowne to the world for a foole, and clapt in the Fleete for a poet.

1598. FLORIO, *A Worlde of Wordes* s.v. *Risentito*. . . Also a HUFFE SNUFFE' one that will soone take pepper in the nose' that will revenge euerie small matter.

1750. OZELL, *Rabelais*, iv., pref. xxiii. Freebooters, desperadoes, and bullying HUFF-SNUFFS.

**HUFTIE-TUFTIE**, *adj.* (old).—Swag-gering; gallant.

1596. NASHE, *Saffron Walden* (GRO-ART, *Works*, iii., 106). Came a ruffling it out, HUFTIE-TUFTIE, in his velvet suit.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stuffe*, (GRO-ART, *Works*, v., 250). HUFTIE-TUFTIE youthful ruffling comrades, wearing every one three yards of feathers in his cap for his mistres favour.

**HUG**, *subs.* (thieves').—GARROTTING (*q.v.*). Also *verbally*, and TO PUT ON THE HUG.

1864. *Home Magazine*, 16 Mar. Hoax upon hoax about the putting on THE HUG was played off upon a credulous and hugbear-loving community.

2. (old).—The sexual embrace. For synonyms, *see* GREENS and RIDE. Also THE CLOSE HUG.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, ii., 'Prologue' (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 288). Apt for a spousal HUG.

1719. DURFEE, *Pills*, etc., iv., 163. They've a new drug Which is called THE CLOSE HUG.

*Verb.* (colloquial).— Properly to grapple with and hold the body, as a bear with his fore-paws. Hence (1) to cuddle; and (2) to perform the sexual embrace (*see subs.*, sense 2). Hence, also, TO HUG BROWN BESS (*q.v.*); TO HUG THE GUNNER'S DAUGHTER = to cuddle a gun for punishment; TO HUG THE GROUND = to fall, or be hit off one's legs; TO GIVE THE HUG (pugilists) = to close with and grapple the body; TO HUG THE SHORE (or BANK or WALL) to keep close to; CORNISH HUG = a hold in wrestling; TO HUG A BELIEF (or DELUSION, or THOUGHT) = to cherish; TO HUG ONE'S CHAINS = to delight in captivity.

1693. LANDSDOWNE, *Poems*, 'Prologue to *The She-Gallants*' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., p. 36). Then, like some pensive statesman, treads de-mure, And smiles and HUGS to make distinction sure.

1602. CAMPION, *English Poesy* (BULLER, *Works*, 1889, p. 249). Changed is Helen. Helen HUGS the stranger.

1631. DRAYTON, *The Mooncalf* (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, iv., 133). Hug him, and swear he was her only joy.

1637. BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Elder Brother*, iv., i. This night I'll HUG my Lilly in my arms.

d. 1649. DRUMMOND, *Posthumous Poems*, 'Of a Kiss.' Nor her who had the fate Ravis'd to be and HUGGED on Ganges' shore.

1659. *Lady Alimony*, iv. (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1875, xiv., 288a). Shall we HUG none of our own, But such as drop from the frigid zone.

c. 1708. W. KING, *The Art of Love*, Pt. iv. (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, ix., 266). Then HUGGING her in brawny arm.

d. 1710. R. D'KE, *Poems*, 'A Song' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 224). Close HUGS the charmer, and ashamed to yield, Though he has lost the day yet keeps the field. *Idem*. She HUGS the dart that wounded her, and dies.

d. 1742. SOMERVILLE, *Occasional Poems*, etc., 'The Fortune-Hunter,' canto iii. (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xi., 221). Drinks double bub with all his might And HUGS his doxy every night.

1746. SMOLLETT, *Advice*, line 4. We'll HUG the curse that not one joy can boast.

d. 1764. LLOYD, *Poems* (1774), 'The Cit's County Box.' HUGGING themselves in ease and clover.

d. 1773. G. CUNNINGHAM, *Poems*, 'Holiday-Gown' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, xiv., 441). He HUGS me so close, and he kisses so sweet.

1791. *Antient and Modern Scottish Songs*, 'My Jockey is a Bonnie Lad,' ii., 325. And then he fa's a kissing, clasping, HUGGING, squeezing, tousling, pressing, winna let me be.

d. 1796. BURNS, *The Jolly Beggars*. And at night in barn or stable, HUG our doxies on the hay.

**HUGGER-MUGGER**, *subs.* (colloquial).

—Muddle; confusion.

1868. C. READE, *Foul Play*, ch. vii. Why didn't you tell me, and I'd have tidied the room: it is all HUGGER-MUGGER, with miss a leaving.

1885. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 36. And every place as neat as a pin, And couldn't stand no HUGGER-MUGGER.

1892. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 28 Oct., p. 2, c. 2. He wrote some lampoons in the papers at the time, in which he ridiculed the HUGGER-MUGGER of the prosecution.

*Adv.* (old).—See *quots.*

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUGGER-MUGGER, Closely or by Stealth, Underboard: *To eat so*, that is, to Eat by one's self.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUGGER-MUGGER, by stealth, privately, without making an appearance; they spent their money in a HUGGER-MUGGER way.

*Adj.* (common).—Confused; disorderly; hap-hazard; HAND-TO-MOUTH (*q.v.*).

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 Oct., p. 2, c. 2. Nor, can they be very severely blamed for this HUGGER-MUGGER, slipshod way of life.

*Verb.* (common).—To meet by stealth; to lay heads together.

1879. JUSTIN MCCARTHY, *Donna Quixote*, ch. xxxii. I can see already that she won't stand much more of you and me HUGGER-MUGGERING together.

IN HUGGER-MUGGER, *adv. phr.* (old).—I. In secret.

1565. STAPLETON, *Fort. of the Faith*, fol. 88. They should not have lurked all this while in HUCKER-MUCKER.

1588. J. UDALL, *Demonstration of Discipline*, p. 30. (ed. Arber). The Byshop without any lawfull election, is chosen IN HUGGERMUGER of the canons, or prebendaries onely, without the knowledge of the people.

1594. NASHE, *Unfortunate Traveller* (GROSART, *Works*, v., 19). Myself that am but a poore childish wel-willer of yours, with the vain thought that a man of your desert and state by a number of pesants and varlets should be so incuriously abused IN HUGGER-MUGGER haue wept al my vrine upward.

1596. NASHE, *Saffron Walden* (GROSART, *Works*, iii., 181). Hee sent her 18 pence IN HUGGER MUGGER, to pay the fiddlers.

1596. SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iv., 5. *King*. . . . We have done but greenly, IN HUGGER-MUGGER to inter him.

1602. DEKKER, *Satiromastix*, iii., 133 (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, viii., 48). One word, sir Quintilian, IN HUGGER-MUGGER.

1607. TOURNEUR, *Revenger's Trag.* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., t875), v., 1. And how quaintly he died, like a politician, IN HUGGER-MUGGER.

1611. CORVAT, *Crud.*, ii., p. 251, repr. So these perhaps might sometimes have some furtive conversation IN HUGGER MUGGER.

1633. FORD, *Tis Pity She's a Whore*, ii., 1. There is no way but to clap up a marriage IN HUGGER-MUGGER.

1639-61. *Rump Songs*, i. [1662], 54. They brought me Gold and Plate IN HUGGER-MUGGAR.

1663. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, i., 3. Where'er th' IN HUGGER-MUGGER lurk, I'll make them rue their handy-work.

1762. CHURCHILL, *The Ghost*, bk. iii., line 27. It must not, as the Vulgar say, Be done IN HUGGER MUGGER way.

1815. *Mirror for Mag.*, p. 457. For most that most things knew, IN HUGGER-MUGGER utter'd what they durst.

**HUGGING**, *subs.* (common).—GAROTTING (*q.v.*).

**HUGSOME**, *adj.* (colloquial).—Carnally attractive; FUCKABLE (*q.v.*).

**HULK** (HULKY, or HULKING Fellow), *subs.* (colloquial).—A fat person; a big lout. Generally, 'great hulk of a fellow.'

d. 1631. DRAYTON, *The Mooncalf* (CHALMERS, *English Poets*, 1810, iv., 126). Wallowing she lay, like to a boist'rous HULK Dropsied with humours.

1698. WARD, *London Spy*, Pt. xiv., p. 324. Up in the Chimney Corner sat a great HULKING Fellow.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HULK (s.). . . . also a lazy, dronish fellow.



1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HULKEY, or HULKING, a great HULKEY fellow, an overgrown clumsy lout, or fellow.

1858. G. ELIOT, *Mr. Gilfil's Love-Story*, ch. ii. When you've got . . . some great HULKY fellow for a husband, who swears at you and kicks your children.

1870. *Chambers's Journal*, 9 July, p. 447. He sees a slouching, shainbling, HULK of a fellow standing listlessly in a doorway.

1871. G. ELIOT, *Middlemarch*, ch. lvi. I want to go first and have a round with that HULKY fellow who turned to challenge me.

1883. A. DOBSON, *Old-World Idylls*, p. 164. I'd like to give that HULKING brute a hit—Beating his horse in such a shameful way!

1893. *National Observer*, 29 July, p. 267, col. 2. The absolute ascendancy exercised by a small but brilliant member . . . over a HULKING Junior.

*Verb* (colloquial). — To hang about; to MOOCH (*q.v.*).

**HULL BETWEEN WIND AND WATER**, *verb. phr.* (venery). — To possess a woman. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

**HULL-CHEESE**, *subs.* (Old Cant). — See quot. For synonyms, see SWIPES.

1622. TAYLOR, *A Very Merry Wherry-Ferry* (HINDLEY, *Works*, 1872), 19. Give me HULL-CHEESE, and welcome and good cheer. *Ibid.* HULL-CHEESE, is much like a loafe out of a brewers basket, it is composed of two simples, mault and water, in one compound, and is cousin germane to the mightiest ale in England.

**HULVERHEAD**, *subs.*, and **HULVER-HEADED**, *adj.* (old). — See quots. For synonyms, see BUFFLE and CABBAGE-HEAD.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HULVER-HEAD, a silly Foolish fellow.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HULVER HEADED, silly, puzzle-pated.

**HUM**, *subs.* (Old Cant). — I. A kind of strong liquor: probably a

mixture of beer and spirits, but see quot. 1690. Also HUM-CAP.

1616. BEN JONSON, *Devil's an Ass*, i., 1. Carmen Are got into the yellow starch, and chimney sweepers To their tobacco, and strong waters, HUM, Meath, and Obarni.

1619. FLETCHER, *Wild Goose Chase* ii., 3. Lord, what should I ail? What a cold I have over my stomach; would I'd some HUM.

1622. FLETCHER, *Beggars' Bush*, ii., 1. Except you do provide me HUM enough, And lour to bouze with.

d. 1645. HEYWOOD, *Drunkard*, p. 48 [Gifford]. Notwithstanding the multiplicity of wines, yet there be stills and limbecks going, sweating out aqua vite and strong waters, deriving their names from cinnamon, balm, and aniseed, such as stomach - water, HUMM, etc.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUM-CAP, old, mellow and very strong Beer.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (common). — A trick; a delusion; a cheat. Also a lie.

1756. *The World*, No. 164. Now if this be only a HUM (as I suppose it is) upon our country apes, it being 'blown in the World will put an end to it.

d. 1764. LLOYD, *Poems* (1774), 'A Tale.' There, my good critics, lies the HUM.

1806. LAMB, *Letters in Wks.* (Ed. 1852), ch. v., p. 81. I daresay all this is HUM!

1820. REYNOLDS (P. Corcoran), *The Fancy*, 'King Tims the First.' You or your son have told a bouncing HUM.

1823. BEE, *Dict. Turf*, s.v. HUM — a whispered lie.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 'Row in an Omnibus Box.' It's 'No Go!' — it's 'Gammon!' — it's 'all a HUM!'

1848. *Punch*, vol. XIV., p. 37. 'Ye Frenche Goe Uppe to London.' That ye French threats were all bouncing, That ye muster was a HUM, And they'd never dare to come.

1885. T. E. BROWN, *The Doctor*, p. 49. A HUM and a huff, And none o' the real stuff.

1892. MILLIKEN, 'Arvy Ballads', p. 76. Married life may be ticketed honey, but I know it's more of a HUM.

3. (old).—See quot.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUMS, persons at church; there is a great number of HUMS in the autem, there is a great congregation in the church.

*Verb* (old).—I. To cheat; to bamboozle; TO QUIZ (*q.v.*).

1762. GOLDSMITH, *Life of Nash*, in *Wks.*, p. 552 (Globe). Here Nash, if I may be permitted the use of a polite and fashionable phrase, was HUMM'D.

1764-1817. J. G. HOLMAN, *Abroad and at Home*, i., 3. *Ser.* It is queer enough that his father, Sir Simon Flourish, should be HUMMED so as to think he is going the tour of Europe, when, all the while, he never got a step farther than St. George's Fields.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. POOLE, *Hamlet Travestied*, iii., 1. Go seek him there: I fear he's only HUMMING.

1819. MOORE, *Tom Crib*, p. 4. While you HUM the poor spoonies with speeches so pretty.

d. 1840. MAD. D'ARBLAY, *Diary*, ii., 153 [ed. 1842]. I don't mean to cajole you hither with the expectation of amusement or entertainment; you and I know better than to HUM or be HUMMED in that manner.

1856. ELLIOTT, *Carolina Sports*, p. 122. I HUMMED him, my stripping was all a feint.

2. (old).—To mumble.

d. 1842. MAGINN, *Vidocq Versified*. To hear Old Cotton HUMMING his pray.

TO HUM AND HAW, *verb. phr.* (colloquial). — To hesitate, to raise objections.

1469. *Paston Letters*, II., 347 (Ed. Gairdner). He wold have gotyn it awaye by HUMYS and by HAYS, but I wold not so be answeyrd.

1594. NASHE, *Unf. Traveller* (GROSE, *Wks.*, v., 96). Hee made no more HUMMING or HAULTING, but in despite of her husbandes kinsfolkes, gaue her her *Nunc dimittis*.

1610. JONSON, *Alchemist*, iii., 2. You may be anything, and leave off to make Long-winded exercises; or suck up Your HA! and HUM! in a tune.

1614. JONSON, *Bartholomew Fair*, i., 1. A sober-drawn exhortation of six hours, whose better part was the HUM-HA-HUM.

1620. MASSINGER, *Fatal Dowry*, iv., 1. Do you stand HUMMING and HAHING now?

d. 1680. BUTLER, *Remains* (1759), ii., 103. He HUMS and HAHs.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUM AND HAW, to Hesitate in Speech; also to delay, or difficultly to be brought to Consent.

1706. MRS. CENTLIVRE, *Love at a Venture*, iv., 2, *Wks.* (1872), i., 304. That was the first excuse that came at my tongue's end—and you know there is no HUMMING AND HAWING with my old master, sir.

1729. SWIFT, *Intelligencer*, No. 14, p. 165 (2nd Ed.). If any person . . . shall presume to exceed six minutes in a story, to HUM OR HAW, use hyphens between his words, or digressions.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. vi. Lord Ascot HUMMED AND HAWED, and told him to tell his father he had been a good boy.

TO MAKE THINGS HUM, *verb. phr.* (American). — To force the pace; to keep moving.

1888. *San Francisco Weekly Exam.*, 23 Feb. Ever since he has taken the newspaper reins in San Francisco he has MADE THINGS HUM.

1890. *Punch*, 22 Feb. If I was flush of the ochre, I tell you I'd make the thing HUM.

1891. *Pall Mall Gaz.*, 28 Aug., p. 2, c. 3. With their advent things begin to HUM.

1893. W. T. STEAD, *Review of Reviews*, p. 152. In the opinion of both foes and friends we make things HUM.

TO HUM AROUND, *verb. phr.* (American).—To call to account; TO CALL OVER THE COALS (*q.v.*).

HUMAN, *subs.* (old: now American).—A human being. [Also HUMAN BOAR]. For synonyms, see COVE.

1719. DUFREY, *Pills*, etc., ii., 332.  
Mongst HUMANS by Court dunning.

1733-5. COWPER, *Task*, ii., line 105.  
And agonies of HUMAN and of brute.

1835. HALIBURTON, *Clockmaker*, 1  
S., ch. xxviii. They have little hovels for  
their cattle . . . and a house for THE  
HUMANS as grand as Noah's Ark.

1882. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 Dec., p.  
2, c. 2. In the opening pages Mr. Matthew  
Arnold mourns in verse over the death of  
'Poor Matthias,' who is not a HUMAN but  
a canary.

1888. *Denver Republican*. He was  
only a dog . . . but was much more  
useful to society than many HUMANS.

**HUMBER-KEELS.** See BILLY-BOY.

**HUMBLE PIE.** TO EAT HUMBLE  
PIE, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To  
submit; to apologise; to knock  
under. For synonyms, see CAVE  
IN.

1862. THACKERAY, *Philip*, xxvii.  
If this old chief had to eat HUMBLE PIE,  
his brave adversaries were anxious that he  
should gobble up his portion as quickly as  
possible, and turned away their honest old  
heads as he swallowed it.

1887. MANVILLE FENN, *This Man's  
Wife*, ch. ii., 4. Our savings are gone and  
we must EAT HUMBLE PIE for the future.

**HUM-BOX**, *subs.* (common).—1. A  
pulpit.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1827. LYTTON, *Pelham*, p. 302 [Ed.  
1862]. Well, you parish bull prig, are you  
for lushing Jacky, or pattering in the HUM-  
BOX?

1853. A MAYHEW, *Paved with Gold*,  
bk. III., ch. ix., p. 309. He was nick-  
named the 'Amen bawler' (parson) and  
recommended to take to the HUM-BOX  
(pulpit) as better suited to him than  
cagding.

ENGLISH SYNONYMS:—Autem;  
cackle tub; clack loft; cowards'  
castle; gospel mill (also a church);  
wood.

2. (American).—An auc-  
tioneer's rostrum.

**HUMBOX PATERER**, *subs.* (com-  
mon).—A parson. For synonyms,  
see DEVIL DODGER and SKY  
PILOT.

1839. G. W. M. REYNOLDS, *Pickwick  
Abroad*, p. 223. Though the HUMBOX  
PATERER talked of hell.

**HUMBUG**, *subs.* (old: now recog-  
nised).—1. A hoax; an imposture;  
a swindle.

1735-40. KILLIGREW, *The Universal  
Jester; or a pocket companion for the  
Wits: being a choice collection of merry  
conceits, facetious drolleries, &c., clen-  
chers, closers, closures, bon-mots, and HUM-  
BUGS.* [Title].

1754. *Connoisseur*. No. 14. Single  
words, indeed, now and then broke forth;  
such as—odious, horrible, detestable,  
shocking, HUMBUG. This last new-coined  
expression, which is only to be found in the  
nonsensical vocabulary, sounds absurd and  
disagreeable whenever it is pronounced.

1762. CHURCHILL, *The Ghost*, bk. I.,  
line 72. And that Great Saint, we White-  
field call, Keeps up the HUMBUG Spiritual.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1828. WEBSTER, *Eng. Dict.*, s.v.

2. Deceit; pretence; affecta-  
tion.

1837. R. H. BARHAM, *Ingoldsty  
Legends*. (Ed. 1862). p. 239. That sort  
of address which the British call HUMBUG  
and Frenchmen 'Finesse.' (It's 'Blarney'  
in Irish—I don't know the Scotch.)

1842. DOUGLAS JERROLD, *Bubbles of  
the Day*, i. Never say HUMBUG; it's  
coar-se. *Sir P.* And not respectable.  
*Smoke.* Pardon me, my lord; it was  
coarse. But the fact is, HUMBUG has re-  
ceived such high patronage, that now it's  
quite classic.

3. A cheat; an impostor; a  
pretender. Also (old), HUMMER.

d. 1783. HENRY BROOKE, *Poems*  
(1776). 'On Humbugging.' (CHALMERS'  
*English Poets*, 1810, xvii., 428). Our  
HUMMERS in state, physic. learning, and  
law.



1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. HUM. He is a HUMBUG that has recourse to the meanness. He wishes to be a bugaboo, or most exalted fool.

1836. DICKENS, *Pickwick*, ch. xxx. 'You're a HUMBUG, sir.' 'A what?' said Mr. Winkle, starting. 'A HUMBUG, sir. I will speak plainer, if you wish it. An impostor, sir.'

*Verb.* To hoax; to swindle; to cajole.

1751. SMOLLETT, *Peregrine Pickle*, ch. lxxxv. He who seemed to be most afflicted of the two taking his departure with an exclamation of 'HUMBUGGED, egad!'

1785. GROSE, *Vulg Tongue*, s.v.

1826. *The Fancy*, ii., 77. We would not have the reader believe we mean to HUMBUG him—not for a moment.

1861. H. KINGSLEY, *Ravenshoe*, ch. xliii. She was always ready to help him, provided, as she told him, 'he didn't HUMBUG.'

Hence HUMBUGGING = hoaxing, swindling, or HUMBUGABLE = gullible. HUMBUGGERY = deception; imposture. HUMBUGGER = a cheat, a hoaxer.

d. 1763. HENRY BROOKE, *Poems* (1778), 'On Humbugging.' (CHALMERS, *English Poets*), 1810, xvii., 428). Of all trades or arts in repute or possession HUMBUGGING is held the most ancient profession. *Idem.* To you, . . . the HUMBUGGERS of hearts.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xviii. The species of wit which has been long a favourite in the city, under the names of cross-biting, giving the dor, bamboozling, cramming, hoaxing, HUMBUGGING, and quizzing.

1825. SOUTHEY, *Letters*, iii., 488 [ed. Warton, 1856]. My charity does not extend so far as to believe that any reasonable man (HUMBUGGABLE as the animal) is can have been so humbugged.

1826. *The Fancy*, ii., 29. A contemporary writer of eminence some years ago termed such exhibitions HUMBUGGING.

1840. THACKERAY, *Paris Sketch Book*, p. 31. Do you not laugh, O Pharos of Bungay, at the continuance of a humbug such as this?—at the HUMBUGGING anniversary of a humbug?

1852. JUDSON, *Myst., etc., of New York* ch. iv. Oh, blast your HUMBUGGERY—talk plain English to me.

1855. THACKERAY, *Newcomes*, ch. v. When the old lady was gone, Mr. Hobson had no need of any more HUMBUGGING, but took his pleasure freely.

1883. MARK TWAIN, *Life on the Mississippi*, ch. xl., p. 369. Traces of its inflated language and other windy HUMBUGGERIES survive along with it.

**HUMDRUM**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—1. A tiresome dullard; a steady-going, common-place person. *See also* quot. 1725.

1596. JONSON, *Every Man in His Humour*, i., 1. By gads-lid I scorn it, I, so I do, to be a consort for every HUMDRUM.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v. HUMDRUMS or HUMS, a Society of Gentlemen, who meet near the Charter-House, or at the King's Head in St. John's Street. Less of mystery, and more of Pleasantry than the Free Masons.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. Monotony; tameness; dullness.

1823. *Hints for Oxford*, p. 63. Men of spirit must ever dislike the unleavened HUMDRUM of its monkish constitution.

1893. *The Nation*, 13 July, p. 32, col. 1. We go so far with the adorers of home and HUMDRUM.

3. (old).—The same as HUMBUG (*q.v.*).

1596. NASHE, *Saffron Walden* (GROSE, *Works*, iii., 14). Whereof generous Dick (without HUMDRUM be it spoken) I utterly despair of them.

4. (old).—A wife; also a husband.

*Adj.* Dull; tame; common-place; monotonous.

1702. VANBRUGH, *False Friend*, ii. A very HUMDRUM marriage this.

1705. WARD, *Hudibras Redivivus*, vol. I., pt. ii., p. 6. Tho' it is their HUMDRUM fashion To hate all musical precision.

1730. JAS. MILLER, *Humours of Oxford*, Act I., p. 7 (2nd Ed.). Your fellows of colleges are a parcel of sad, muzzy, HUMDRUM, lazy, ignorant old caterpillars.

d. 1764. LLOYD, *Poems* (1774), 'A Familiar Epistle.' So frothy, vapid, stale, HUMDRUM.

1765. C. SMART, *Fables*, xv., line 5. Content in HUMDRUM mood 't'adjust Her matters to disperse the dust.

1774. FOOTE, *Coseners*, i., 1. Not one, madam, of the HUMDRUM, drawing, long winded tribe.

1775. SHERIDAN, *Rivals*, ii., 1. Yet am I by no means certain that she would take me with the impediment of our friends' consent, a regular HUMDRUM wedding, and the reversion of a good fortune on my side.

d. 1823. BLOOMFIELD, *Poems*, 'Richard and Kate' (1825), p. 89. Come, Goody, stop your HUMDRUM wheel.

1825. HARRIET WILSON, *Memoirs*, iii., 237. You are, in fact, too constant for Paris. One has enough of all that HUM-DRUM stuff in England.

1849. THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, ch. lxi. The most fervent Liberals, when out of power, become HUMDRUM Conservatives, or downright tyrants or despots in office.

1863. ALEX. SMITH, *Dreamthorpe*, p. 23. Giddy people may think the life I lead here staid and HUMDRUM, but they are mistaken.

1893. *Standard*, 8 Aug., p. 4, col. 6. The thing, in his view, is to rattle off something pretentious, and avoid the HUM-DRUM and tiresome methods which statesmanship of the pre-Home-Rule period used to respect.

**HUMDURGEON**, *subs.* (old).—1. An imaginary illness.—GROSE.

2. (common).—Needless noise; ado about nothing.

1815. SCOTT, *Guy Mannering*, ch. xliii. I would never be making a HUM- DUDGEON about a scart on the pow.

**HUMDURGEONED**, *adj.* (old). — Annoyed.

1830. LYTTON, *Paul Clifford*. Don't be HUMDURGEONED but knock down a gemman.

**HUMGUFFIN** (common).—A hob-goblin. Also a derisive address.

**HUMGUMPTIOUS**, *adj.* (obsolete).—*See* quot.

1823. BEE, *Dict. of the Turf*, s.v. HUM. A knowing sort of humbug is HUMGUMPTIOUS.

**HUMMER**, *subs.* (old).—1. *See* quot.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUMMER, a loud Lie, a Rapper.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.* s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.). HUMMER (s.) a great, monstrous, or notorious lie.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (American).—A man or woman of notable parts; a HIGH STEPPER (*q.v.*); a GOOD GOER (*q.v.*). *Cf.*, RUSTLER.

1889. *Ally Sloper*, 6 July. If Tootsie is anything as lively as the 'Gaiety Girls,' she must be a HUMMER.

1891. GUNTER, *Miss Nobody*, ch. xvii. I just wanted to see my Tillie dance once. She's a society HUMMER now.

3. (obsolete).—*See* HUMBUG, sense 3.

**HUMMING**, *adj.* (old). Strong—applied to drink; brisk—applied to trade; hard—applied to blows. HUMMING OCTOBER = the specially strong brew from the new season's hops; STINGO (*q.v.*).

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*. HUMMING Liquor, Double Ale, Stout, Pharaoh.

1701. FARQUHAR, *Sir Harry Wildair*, iv., 2. The wine was HUMMING strong.

1736. FIELDING, *Don Quixote*, iii., 4. Landlord, how fares it? You seem to drive a HUMMING trade here.

1821. EGAN, *Tom and Jerry*, ch. vii. Let us fortify our stomachs with a slice or two of hung beef, and a horn or so of HUMMING stingo.

1822. SCOTT, *Fortunes of Nigel*, ch. xliii. A HUMMING double pot of ale.

1837. BARHAM, *Ingoldsby Legends*. 'The Wedding Day.' A mighty magnificent tub Of what men, in our hemisphere, term 'HUMMING Bub,' But which gods—who, it seems, use a different lingo, From mortals, are wont to denominate 'Stingo.'

1864. DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, bk. III., ch. vii. Wegg, in coming to the ground, had received a HUMMING knock on the back of his devoted head.

**HUMP**, *verb.* (common). — I. To spoil ; to botch ; to do for.

1851-61. H. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, vol. i., p. 252. To HUMP in street parlance, is equivalent to 'botch,' in more genteel colloquialism.

2. (colonial).—To shoulder and carry. *E.g.*, To HUMP ONE'S SWAG = to shoulder one's kit.

1886. *Daily Telegraph*, 1 Jan. Ladies whom I have met HUMPING their own drums.

1887. *All the Year Round*, 30 July, p. 66. A large blanket rolled up which contains the personal luggage of the inan who carries or HUMPS it.

1887. G. A. SALA in *Illus. Lon. News*, 12 Mar., 28/2. All kinds of luggage, generally speaking, which are manually carried, are at present said to be HUMPED. I have had to HUMP mine many a time and oft.

1888. ROLF BOLDREWOOD, *Robbery Under Arms*, ch. xxii. We HUMPED our saddles and swags ourselves.

1890. *Family Herald*, 8 Feb., p. 227. I was just debating whether I had better HUMP my drum.

3. (old).—See quot. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUMP, to HUMP. Once a fashionable word for copulation

To HUMP ONESELF, *verb. phr.* (American).—To stir ; to prepare for attack ; to fancy oneself.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc. p. 177. Ef thar are anything he HUMPS hisself on besides ugly, it is his manners among the fimmales.

1847. PORTER, *Big Bear*, etc., p. 126. He was breathin' sorter hard, his eye set on the Governor, HUMPIN' himself on politics

To GET (or HAVE) THE HUMP, *verb. phr.* (common). — To be despondent, hurt, put out, DOWN IN THE MOUTH (*q.v.*). Also, TO HAVE THE HUMP UP or ON. For synonyms, see SNAGGY.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stuffe* (Grosart, *Works*, v., 267). So IN HIS HUMPS about it . . . that he had thought to have tumbled his hurrie-currie . . . into the sea.

1885. *Punch*, 10 Jan., p. 24. I had GOT THE 'UMP, and no error, along o' Bill B. and that gal.

1892. ANSTEY, *Model Music-Hall*, 43. The company consume what will be elegantly referred to as 'a bit of booze.' Aunt Snapper GETS THE 'UMP.

1886. JEROME, *Idle Thoughts*, p. 14. 'Arry refers to the heavings of his wayward heart by confiding to Jimmie that he has GOT THE BLOOMING HUMP!

**HUMPEY**, *subs.* (Australian).—See quot.

1893. GILBERT PARKER, *Pierre and his People*, p. 135. McGann was lying on his back on a pile of buffalo robes in a mountain hut. Australians would call it a HUMPEY.

**HUMPHREY**, *subs.* (American thieves').—A coat with pocket holes but no pockets.—MATSELL.

To DINE WITH DUKE HUMPHREY. See DINE, SIR THOMAS GRESHAM, and KNIGHTS.

1592. NASHE, *Pierce Penilesse* (Grosart), ii., 18. I . . . retired me to Pauls, to SEEKE MY DINNER WITH DUKE HUMFREY.

1843. MONCRIEFF, *The Scamps of London*, i., 1. DINES oftener WITH DUKE HUMPHREY than anybody else, I believe.

**HUMPTY-DUMPTY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—I. A short and thick-set person ; a GRUNDY (*q.v.*) ; a hunch-back. For synonyms, see FORTY GUTS.



1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

2. (old).—See quot. 1690.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUMPTY DUMPTY, Ale boiled with Brandy.

1698. M. SORBIÈRE'S *Journey to London in the Year 1698*, p. 135, quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 6 S., xii., 167. He answer'd me that he had a thousand such sort of liquors, as HUMTIE DUMTIE, Three Threads . . .

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1837. DISRAELI, *Venetia*, i., 14. As for the beverage they drank HUMPTY-DUMPTY, which is ale boiled with brandy.

*Adj. and adv.* (colloquial).—Short and thick; all of a heap; all together.

**HUM-STRUM.** *subs.* (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUMSTRUM, a musical instrument made of a mopstick, a bladder, and some packthread, thence also called bladder and string, and hurdy gurdy; it is played on like a violin, which is sometimes ludicrously called a HUMSTRUM; sometimes instead of a bladder, a tin canister is used.

**HUNCH**, *verb.* (old: now colloquial).

—To jostle; to shove; to squeeze. For synonyms, see RAMP.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUNCH, to juttle, or thrust.

1712. ARBUTHNOT, *Hist. of John Bull*, Pt. III., App., ch. iii. Then Jack's friends began to HUNCH and push one another.

1738. SWIFT, *Polite Convers.*, Dial. 1. I was HUNCHED up in a hackney-coach with three country acquaintance.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1847. PORTER, *Quarter Race*, etc., p. 163. I hadn't fairly got to sleep before the old 'oman HUNCHED me.

**HUNG.** See WELL-HUNG.

TO BE HUNG UP, *verb. phr.* (colloquial).—To come to a standstill; to be in a fix.

1891. *Fun*, 10 June, p. 237. 'Ah! by Bendigo, I forgot! Grimmy's HUNG UP! 'What, Grimmy? Never!'

**HUNGARIAN**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—1. A hungry man; a RARE PECKER (*q.v.*).

1608. DODSLEY, *Merry Devil of Edmonton* [*Old Plays*, v. 267]. Away, I have knights and colonels at my house, and must tend the HUNGARIANS.

1632. LUPTON, *London* ['Harl. Misc.'], ix., 314. The middle aile [of St. Paul's] is much frequented at noon with a company of HUNGARIANS, not walking so much for recreation as need.

2. (Old Cant).—A freebooter.

1608. *Merry Devil of Edmonton* [DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, v. 265]. Come, ye HUNGARIAN pilchers, we are once more come under the zona torrida of the forest.

1893. *National Observer*, 'Spoliation,' ix., 357. But, after all, it is only another note in the gamut of spoliation, whereof Mr. Gladstone's HUNGARIANS (a good old word that!) would have the mastery.

**HUNK.** TO BE (or GET) HUNK or ALL HUNK, *verb. phr.* (American).

—1. To hit a mark; to achieve an object; to be safe. Also (2) to scheme. [From Dutch *honk* = goal or home.]

1847. DARLEY, *Drama in Poker-ville*, p. 50. I'll allow you're just HUNK this time.

1893. *Detroit Free Press*, June 23, 'He Threatens to go back,' p. 3. I propose to have some of it, or I'll GET HUNK.

**HUNKER** (or OLD HUNKER), *subs.* (American).—In New York (1844) a Conservative Democrat, as opposed to the Young Democracy or BARN-BURNERS (*q.v.*). Hence, an anti-progressive in politics.

**HUNKS**, *subs.* (old).—A miser; a mean, sordid fellow; a curmudgeon. For synonyms, see SNIDE.

1602. DEKKER, *Satiro-Mastix*, in *Wks.* (1873), i., 201. *Blun.* Nay prethee deare Tucca, come you shall shake—*Tuc.* Not hands with great HUNKES there, not hands, but Ile shake the gull-groper out of his tan'd skinne.

1602. CAMPION, *English Poesy* (Works, BULLEN, 1839, p. 247). But it drinks up all: that HUNKS detestable.

1647-80. ROCHESTER, *Wks.*; p. 11. There was an old covetous HUNKS in the neighbourhood, who had notwithstanding his age, got a very pretty young wife.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, v., 2. Make a very pretty show in the world, let me tell you; nay, a better than your close HUNKS.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUNKS, a covetous Creature, a miserable Wretch.

1712. *Spectator*, No. 264. Irus has . . . given all the intimations he skillfully could of being a close HUNKS with money.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1837. MARRVATT, *Snarley-yow*, ch. 12. So while they cut their raw salt junks, With dainties you'll be cramm'd. Here's once for all my mind, old HUNKS, Port Admiral, you be dammed!

1839. BUCKSTONE, *Brother Tom* (Dick's ed., p. 15). One calls him an old HUNKS, another a selfish brute.

1840. DICKENS, *Old Curiosity Shop*, ch. vii., p. 35. That you become the sole inheritor of the wealth of this rich old HUNKS.

1846. MELVILLE, *Moby Dick*, 75 (ed. 1892). Bildad, I am sorry to say, had the reputation of being an incorrigible old HUNKS.

1857. A. TROLLOPE, *Three Clerks*, ch. iii. I am sure he is a cross old HUNKS, though Mamma says he's not.

1893. THEODORE MARTIN, *Roman Elegies*, ii. (Goethe Society Trans., 1891-2, p. 72). Joys that he stints not his gold like the close HUNKS of Rome.

**HUNKY**, *adj.* (American).—Good; jolly; a general superlative. Also HUNKIDORUM.

d. 1867. BROWNE, 'Artemus Ward,' *The Shakers* (Railway ed.), p. 43. 'HUNKY boy! Go it my gay and festive cuss!'

1873. JUSTIN MCCARTHY, *Fair Saxon*, ch. xxxviii. The guard dies, but never surrenders! Fine, isn't it? But the HUNKY-boy that said that surrendered all the same.

1888. *Texas Siftings*, 20 Oct. Robert is all HUNKY, but he had a mighty close call the week before last.

**HUNT**, *verb.* (old).—To decoy a PIGEON (*q.v.*) to the tables. Hence HUNTING = card-sharpping. FLAT-CATCHING (*q.v.*).

1630. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. HUNTING (*c.*), decoying or drawing others into Play.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

TO HUNT FOR SOFT SPOTS, *verb. phr.* (American).—To make oneself comfortable; to seek one's ease.

1888. *San Francisco Weekly Examiner*, 22 Mar. It was demnition hot, and I commenced to HUNT FOR SOFT SPOTS in my saddle.

TO HUNT GRASS, *verb. phr.* (pugilists').—To be knocked down; TO BE GRASSED (*q.v.*). Also, to be puzzled; to be dumfounded.

1869. CLEMENS [Mark Twain], *Innocents at Home*, ch. ii. I HUNT GRASS every time.

TO HUNT LEATHER, *verb. phr.* (cricketers').—To field at cricket.

1892. *Cassell's Sat. Jour.*, 21 Sep. p. 13, c. 2. For nearly ten years I earned a living—and a good one—by 'wielding the willow' and HUNTING THE LEATHER.

TO HUNT THE DUMMY, *verb. phr.* (thieves').—To steal pocket books.

1878. CHARLES HINDLEY, *Life and Times of James Catnach*, p. 171. (Chorus)—Speak to the tattler, bag the swag, And finely HUNT THE DUMMY.

TO HUNT THE SQUIRREL, *verb. phr.* (old).—See quot.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. HUNTING THE SQUIRREL, an amusement practised by post boys, and stage coachmen, which consists in following a one-horse chaise, and driving it before them, passing close to it so as to brush the wheel, and by other means terrifying any woman, or person that may be in it. A man whose turn comes for him to drink, before he has emptied his former glass, is said to be HUNTED.

IN, or OUT OF, THE HUNT, *adv. phr.* (colloquial).—Having a chance, or none; IN or OUT OF THE SWIM (*q.v.*). Admitted to, or outside, a circle or society.

HUNT-ABOUT, *subs.* (colloquial).—  
1. A prying gossip.

2. (common).—A walking whore.

HUNT-COUNTER, *subs.* (old).—A beggar.

1623. SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV.*, i., 2. You HUNT - COUNTER, hence! Avaunt!

HUNTERS. PITCHING THE HUNTERS, *verb. phr.* (costermongers').  
*See quot.*

1851-61. MAYHEW, *Lond. Lab. and Lond. Poor*, i., 390. PITCHING THE HUNTERS is the three sticks a penny, with the snuff-boxes stuck upon sticks; if you throw your stick, and they fall out of the hole, you are entitled to what you knock off.

1876. HINDLEY, *Cheap Jack*, p. 235. When . . . there was no cattle jobbing to be done, he would PITCH THE HUNTERS, that is, put up the 'three sticks a penny' business.

HURLY-BURLY, *subs.* (old: now colloquial).—A commotion; a bustle; an uproar.

c. 1509-1547. *Lusty Juventus* (DODSLEY, *Old Plays*, 4th ed., 1874, ii., 85). What a HURLY-BURLY is here! Smick smack, and all this gear!

1539. TAVERNIER, *Garden of Wysdom*, E. ii. verso. Thys kyng [Gelo] on a tyme exacted money of hys comons, whome when he perceuyed in a HURLY BURLY for the same, and ready to make an insurrection, he thus sodaynly appeased.

1542. UDALL, *Apophthegms of Erasmus* [1877], p. 115. The meaning of the Philosophier was, that princes for the ambition of honour, rule and dominion, being in continuall strife, and HURLEE BURLEE, are in very deede persons full of miserie and wo.

1551. MORE, *Utopia*, (Pitt Press ed., 1884, i., 52, 5). Whereby so many nations for his sake should be broughte into a troublesome HURLEI-BURLEY.

1567. FENTON, *Tragical Discourses*, f. 104. They heard a great noyse and HURLEYBURLEY in the street of the Guard and chief officers of the Watch.

1592. NASH, *Pierce Penilesse* (GROSART, *Works*, ii., 53). Not trouble our peaceable Paradise with their private HURLIE-BURLIES about strumpets.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stufte* (GROSART, *Works*, v., 293). Put them in feare where no feare is, and make a HURLIE-BURLIE in the realm.

1606. SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, i., 1. When the HURLEY-BURLEY's done, When the battle's lost and won.

1619. T. NORTH's *Diall of Princes* (1557), corrected, p. 703, c. 1. Two or three dayes before you shall see such resort of persons, such HURLY BURLY, such flying this way such sending that way, some occupied in telling the cookes how many sorts of meates they will have . . .

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1771. SMOLLETT, *Humphrey Clinker* (ed. 1890, p. 185). As for the lawyer he waited below till the HURLY-BURLY was over, and then he stole softly to his own chamber.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1811. J. and H. SMITH, *Horace in London*, pp. 18-25, Ode ii., 'HURLY-BURLY' (Title).

1886. MAX ADELER *Out of the HURLY-BURLY*. Title.



1893. *St. James's Gazette*, xxvii., 4076, p. 4. While all London was making holiday, Paris was engaged in a HURLY-BURLY of a very different kind.

**HURRA'S-NEST**, *subs.* (nautical).—The utmost confusion; everything topsy-turvy. For synonyms, see SIXES AND SEVENS.

1840. R. H. DANA, *Two Years Before the Mast*, ch. ii. Everything was pitched about in grand confusion. There was a complete HURRAH'S NEST, as the sailors say, 'everything on top and nothing at hand.'

1869. MRS. STOWE, *Old Townsfolks*, ch. iv. You've got our clock all to pieces, and have been keeping up a perfect MURRAH'S NEST in our kitchen for three days. Do either put that clock together or let it alone.

**HURRAH IN HELL. NOT TO CARE A SINGLE HURRAH IN HELL**, *verb. phr.* (American).—To be absolutely indifferent.

1893. HAROLD FREDERIC, *National Observer*, IX., 1 Apr., p. 493, col. 2. I don't care a single HURRAH IN SHEOL.

**HURRY**, *subs.* (musical).—A quick passage on the violin, or a roll on the drum, leading to a climax in the representation.

1835. DICKENS, *Sketches by Boz*, p. 66. The wrongful heir comes in to two bars of quick music (technically called a HURRY).

**HURRY - CURRY**, *subs.* (obsolete).—See quot.

1599. NASHE, *Lenten Stuffs* (GROSE-ART, *Works*, v. 267). The was so in his humps upon it . . . that he had thought to have tumbled his HURRIE CURRIE, or can, into the sea.

**HURRY-DURRY**, *adj.* (old).—Rough; boisterous; impatient of counsel or control.

1677. WYCHERLEY, *Plain Dealer*, i., 1. 'Tis a HURRYDURRY blade.

**HURRYGRAPH**, *subs.* (American).—A hastily written letter.

1861. *Independent*, 31 July. I must close this HURRYGRAPH, which I have no time to review.

**HURRY-WHORE**, *subs.* (old).—A walking strumpet.

1630. TAYLOR, *Wks.* And I do wish with all my heart, that the superfluous number of all our hyreling hackney carryknaves, and HURRY-WHORES, with their makers and maintainers, were there, where they might never want continual employment.

**HUSBAND'S-BOAT**, *subs.* (common).—The Saturday boat to Margate during the summer season.

c. 1867. VANCE, *Broadside Ballad*. The HUSBAND'S BOAT.

1887. MURRAY, in *New Eng. Dict.*, Pt. III., p. 956, c. 3. Waiting at Margate Pier for the HUSBAND'S BOAT on Saturday afternoon.

**HUSBAND'S-SUPPER**. TO WARM THE HUSBAND'S SUPPER, *verb. phr.* (common).—To sit before the fire with lifted skirts. Fr., *faire chapelette*.

**HUSBAND'S-TEA**, *subs.* (common).—Weak tea; WATER BEWITCHED (*q.v.*).

**HUSH**, *verb.* (old).—To kill.—GROSE.

**HUSH-MONEY**, *subs.* (old: now recognised).—Money paid for silence, to quash a case, or stay a witness; a bribe; blackmail.

1709. STEELE, *Tatler*, No. 26. I expect HUSH-MONEY to be regularly sent for every folly or vice any one commits in this whole town.

1713. *Guardian*, No. 26. A poor chambermaid has sent in ten shillings out of her HUSH-MONEY, to expiate her guilt of being in her mistress's secret.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1748. T. DYCHE, *Dictionary* (5th Ed.), s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

1852. DICKENS, *Bleak House*, ch. xxxvii. To allow Ada to be made a bribe and HUSH-MONEY of, is not the way to bring it out.

1884. *Spectator*, p. 530. They were disappointed of their HUSH-MONEY, but he gave them an easy revenge.

**HUSH-SHOP** (or-CRIB), *subs.* (common).—An unlicensed tavern.

1872. *Globe*, 18 Sep. At Barrow-in-Furness the new Licensing Act has had the effect of calling numerous HUSH SHOPS into existence.

**HUSKY**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—Gooseberry fool with the husks in it, obsolete. [*Notions*.]

1870. MANSFIELD, *School Life*, p. 145. There were two kinds [Gooseberry fool] HUSKY and non-husky.

*Adj.* (American).—Stout; well built.

**MUSKY-LOUR**, *subs.* (Old Cant).—A guinea; a JOB (*q.v.*). For synonyms, see CANARY.

1690. B. E., *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, s.v.

1725. *New Cant. Dict.*, s.v.

1785. GROSE, *Vulg. Tongue*, s.v.

**HUSSY**, *subs.* (colloquial).—A corruption of HOUSEWIFE (*q.v.*).

**HUSTLE**, *verb.* (venery).—1. To copulate. For synonyms, see GREENS and RIDE.

2. (American).—To bestir oneself; to go to work with vigour and energy. Also to HUSTLE AROUND.

**HUSTLER**, *subs.* (American).—An active, busy man or woman. A HUMMER (*q.v.*); a RUSTLER (*q.v.*).

1890. HAROLD FREDERIC, *Lawton Girl*. A whimsical query as to whether this calamitous boy had also been named Benjamin Franklin crossed his confused mind, and then . . . whether the child if so named, would be a HUSTLER or not.

**HUTCH**, *subs.* (common).—A place of residence or employment; one's DIGGINGS (*q.v.*).

**HUTTER**. See HATTER.

**HUXTER**, *subs.* (common).—Money. Also HOXTER. For synonyms, see ACTUAL and GILT.

c. 186 (?). *Broadside Ballad*. These seven long years I've been serving, and Seven I've got for to stay, All for meeting a bloke down our alley And a-taking his HUXTERS away.

**HUZZY** (or HUZZIE), *subs.* (old).—A case of needles, pins, scissors, bodkins, etc.; a housewife's companion.

**HYMENEAL-SWEETS**, *subs.* (venery).—Copulation.

1604. MARSTON, *Malcontent*, i., 3. True to her sheetes, nay, diets strong his blood, To give her height of HYMENEALL SWEETES.

**HYPERNESE**, *subs.* (Winchester College).—See quot. ZIPH (*q.v.*).

1864. *The Press*, 12 Nov. p. 1098. This dialect of school cryptoëpy was known in our youth as HYPERNESE. When spoken fast it defies an outsider's curiosity. If two consonants commence a syllable, the former is dropped, and W substituted: thus breeches would be *wareechepes*. If P commences a syllable, G is interpolated: thus penny would be *pegennepny*. . . . That Ziph and its cognate languages are well known beyond the boundaries of Winchester is certain. Bishop Wilkins described it, without mentioning it as a novelty, a couple of centuries ago.

**HYPHENATED AMERICAN**, *subs.* (American).—A naturalised citizen, as German-Americans, Irish-Americans, and the like. [NORTONS.]

**HYPOCRITE**, *subs.* (American).—  
A pillow slip or 'sham.'

**HYPOGASTRIC-CRANNY**, *subs.* (venery). The female *pudendum*.—  
URQUHART. For synonyms, *see*  
MONOSYLLABLE.

**HYPs (or HYPO)**, *subs.* (old).—The  
BLUE DEVILS (*q.v.*).

1710. SWIFT, *Tatler*, No. 230. Will  
Hazard has got the HIPPS, having lost to  
the tune of five hund'rd pound.

1729. SWIFT, *Poems* (CHALMERS,  
*English Poets*, 1810, xi., 486). And the  
doctor was plaguily DOWN IN THE HIPS.

1738. SWIFT'S *Polite Conversation*,  
Dial 1. Her ladyship was plaguily  
bamb'd; I warrant it put her into the  
HIPPS.

1811. *Lexicon Balatronicum*, s.v.  
1830. C. LAMB, *Pawnbroker's*  
*Daughter*, i., 2. 'The drops so like  
to tears did drip, They gave my infant  
nerves the HYP.

1854. HALIBURTON, *Americans at*  
*Home*, i., 176. The old man would give  
up to the HYPO, and keep his bed for weeks.  
During this time, he wouldn't say a word,  
but 'I'm not long for this world.'

END OF VOL. III.



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